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FIGURE TODAY!  
Nagano Guide Page 8

## U.S., Welcoming Tehran's Gesture, Probes Potential For Direct Talks

By Barton Gellman  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration Thursday welcomed Iran's renewed overtures to the United States and began refining a strategy for drawing the government in Tehran toward direct talks.

On the morning after President Mohammed Khatami appealed for new understanding between the two nations, the White House spokesman said President Bill Clinton "appreciates those positive remarks" and would be watching "not just what Iran says but what Iran does."

In an extraordinary interview televised Wednesday night, Mr. Khatami called for wide-ranging unofficial exchanges to break down the "bulky wall of mistrust between us and the U.S. administration," implying for the first time that an informal dialogue could lead to the resumption of diplomatic ties after 18 years of unbroken hostility.

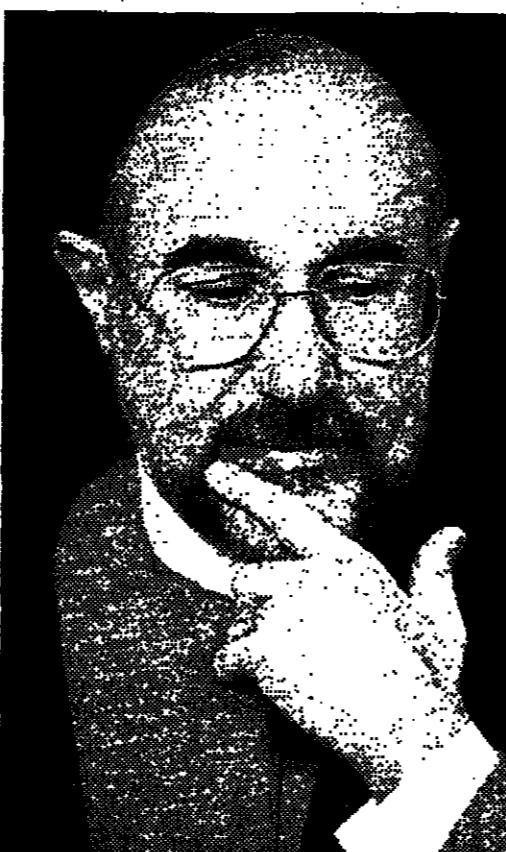
Mr. Khatami declared his solidarity with the "essence of the American civilization" and expressed regret for the 1979 hostage-taking that consolidated the Islamic revolution.

While strongly critical of U.S. governments, past and present, he said "there is no hostility between the two nations" and used a cautiously worded formula to suggest that negotiations "based on mutual respect" could "lead to positive results."

Mr. Khatami's 45-minute interview with CNN enlarged substantially on his remarks of Dec. 14, when he expressed his hope for a "thoughtful dialogue" with "the great people of the United States."

In response, U.S. policymakers said Thursday that they wanted to probe Iran's sincerity, not merely wait for encouraging changes in behavior.

"When Khatami was elected, I was frankly quite skeptical," said a foreign policy official. "Now I think there is quite a bit going on. The decision for the U.S. government is how to encourage change in a



Mr. Khatami called for wide-ranging exchanges to break down the "wall of mistrust."

See IRAN, Page 10

## A Grim Portrait Of Iran's Past Clouds Prospect For Normal Ties

By R. Jeffrey Smith  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In September 1993, the Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei instructed his senior foreign affairs officials that their "first duty" was to cooperate with intelligence officers working to undermine secular and Western influence in the region and export the fundamentalist Islamic revolution.

To some diplomatic officials in the Middle East, this secret speech by Ayatollah Khamenei,

### NEWS ANALYSIS

the substance of which was confirmed by three governments, was the beginning of a concerted effort to destabilize and "destroy" neighboring Gulf governments.

The officials contend that American and allied assets throughout the region were singled out for covert surveillance, radicals were brought to the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon for training in bombing and assassination techniques, and cells of sympathizers were formed in a half-dozen Middle East nations on the model of the Hezbollah group in Lebanon.

Following the dictums of the speech, according to this view, Iranian agents unleashed violence in Bahrain in December 1994, hatched subversive plots in Egypt and eventually undertook the successful truck bombing of a U.S. military barracks in Saudi Arabia in June 1996, killing 19 American airmen.

It is a seamless and grim picture of officially sanctioned terrorism, and it still hangs over discussion about reconciliation between Iran, neighboring Gulf states and the United States. Some Gulf officials today ask, how can they conduct friendly relations with a country whose top leader ordered his

subordinates to offer humanitarian assistance."

The Canadian government, meanwhile, said Thursday that a senior diplomat, Claude Laverdure, would go to Algiers in the next few days to evaluate the situation. Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy underscored his concern about the killings and "reiterated to the relevant authorities the need for greater transparency."

See ALGERIA, Page 10

## West Will Approach Algeria Over Massacres

By Charles Trueheart  
Washington Post Service

PARIS — As nearly daily massacres continue to add to the count of murdered civilians in Algeria — about a thousand people have died in the past 10 days — Western nations are beginning to gear up their diplomatic machinery to respond to public revulsion at the unchecked terror.

On Thursday, the 15 countries of the European Union decided unanimously to dispatch a delegation to Algeria to explore with the military-backed govern-

ment ways to end the violence that has taken up to 80,000 lives since 1992.

"We cannot and must not watch passively as the murder in Algeria takes place," said the German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel.

[The Algerian foreign minister, Ahmed Attar, said Thursday that his government welcomed a fact-finding EU mission as long as it planned to confront "terrorism," Reuters reported.

[The British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, said in a statement that the EU delegation would comprise representatives from Britain, which took over the

rotating EU presidency on Jan. 1; from Luxembourg, EU president for the last half of 1996, and from Austria, which will take over the presidency July 1.

A Foreign Office spokesman said it was not yet clear when the visit by EU officials from the three countries would take place.

[We now have agreement in principle with our EU partners that a troika mission at official level should visit Algeria," Mr. Cook said. "This is an important initial step which will help the EU get a clearer picture of the situation on the ground. It will also enable the EU

to make clear to the Algerian government the concern felt in Europe about the security situation in Algeria and our desire to offer humanitarian assistance."

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See ALGERIA, Page 10

### AGENDA

#### 240 Years in Jail for Trade Center Blast

Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, convicted of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center blast, was sentenced Thursday to life in prison without parole.

Judge Kevin Duffy of U.S. District Court said Mr. Yousef would spend the rest of his life in solitary confinement. He was sentenced to a total of 240 years.

Judge Duffy called Mr. Yousef "a follower of death and destruction," saying: "It was your god, your master, your only devotion."

"Yes, I am a terrorist and am proud

of it," Mr. Yousef said. "I support terrorism."

Saying that a publisher might be "perversely enough to buy your story," Judge Duffy also fined Mr. Yousef \$4.5 million and ordered him to pay \$250 million in damages to ensure that any gain would go to his victims.

Six people were killed and about 1,000 wounded in the February 1993 World Trade Center blast. In November, he was found guilty on 11 counts in connection with the blast. Page 10.

See AGENDA, Page 4

Unabomber Suspect Seeks to Defend Self

Theodore Kaczynski, the Unabomber suspect accused of a string of bombings that killed three people, again disrupted the opening of his trial in Sacramento, California, as he proposed Thursday to serve as his own attorney.

Mr. Kaczynski's request, announced by his defense lawyer, Judy Clarke, followed a week of wrangling over how he would be represented in the case and put the trial on hold again as his lawyers and Judge Garland Burrell discussed what the next move should be.

Mr. Clarke said the mental illness defense planned by the lawyers was a situation that killed three people, again disrupted the opening of his trial in Sacramento, California, as he proposed Thursday to serve as his own attorney.

Judge Burrell gave lawyers for both sides a brief break to discuss the implications of the request.

Mr. Kaczynski, 55, has pleaded not guilty to charges that he carried out four of the 16 bombings attributed to the Unabomber, killing two Sacramento men. If he is convicted, he could face the death penalty. Page 3.

See AGENDA, Page 4

Minister Manfred Kanther said, "We can now keep surveillance on suspected gangster apartments and we will be able to better fight money laundering."

Leaders of Mr. Kohl's coalition and the Social Democrats said their pact ensured that both houses of Parliament could pass the measure quickly so that German police will be able to coordinate surveillance operations with colleagues from other countries where similar snooping practices have been permitted for years.

But the agreement was quickly attacked by leftists, politicians, civil libertarians and journalists as a threat to basic democratic freedoms in postwar Germany that have guaranteed the privacy of a person's home from intrusions by the state.

The Greens party and the former Communists of the Party of Democratic Socialism lambasted their opposition



## UK Press

EURO OPTIMIST — Prime Minister Tony Blair predicted a "new era" for Britain in the European Union in London on Thursday. Page 5.

PAGE TWO In Russia, Punishment Precedes Trial

THE AMERICAS Page 2 Canada Apologizes to Its Indians

EUROPE Page 5. Dissension in French Government

Books Page 7

Crossword Page 9

Opinion Pages 6-7

Sports Page 18-19

The IHT Online [www.iht.com](http://www.iht.com)

The Intermarket Page 5

The Dollar		
New York	Thursday 4 P.M.	previous close
DM	1.8215	1.8258
Pound	1.8125	1.8258
Yen	132.695	131.955
FF	6.0925	6.104

The Dow		
Thursday close	previous close	
99.85	790.82	790.27
S&P 500	790.82	790.27

change Thursday 4 P.M. previous close		
4.95	959.04	964.00

See INDONESIA, Page 4

### ASIA

See ASIA, Page 15

## Korean President-Elect Blames Strongman Rule

People Were 'Deceived' on Economy, Kim Says

By Kevin Sullivan  
Washington Post Service

ILSAN, South Korea — President-elect Kim Da Jung of South Korea on Thursday attributed much of Asia's financial crisis to governments that lie to their people and authoritarian leaders who have placed economic growth ahead of democratic freedoms.

"Many of the leaders of Asian society have been saying that military dictatorship was the way and democracy was not good for their nations," Mr. Kim said, in a 90-minute interview with the Washington Post at his home in this suburb of Seoul.

"They concentrated only on economic development," he said, without specifying any nations but referring to "Asian-style democracy," in which governments are built around a single strong leader who controls economic policy.

"I believe that the fundamental cause of the financial crisis, including here, in Korea is because of placing economic development ahead of democracy," he said.

Mr. Kim, a crusader for democracy and human rights who was imprisoned,

exiled, sentenced to death and survived assassination attempts at the hands of South Korea's previous military dictators, also said he hoped his life would inspire his nation's youth.

"If parents can tell their kids: 'Look at Kim Da Jung: live upright, put your effort into a good cause and you will be successful,' then I think my life would be very meaningful," said Mr. Kim, who won the presidency last month on his fourth attempt over the past quarter-century.

Mr. Kim also reaffirmed his "100 percent commitment" to the \$60 billion bailout of his country's crippled economy, led by the International Monetary Fund. Although the Fund is demanding tough changes that are expected to lead to massive layoffs and corporate bankruptcies, Mr. Kim, who has close ties with the nation's militant labor unions, said he believed he would be able to negotiate a deal to avert strikes that could hamper the recovery of one of the world's largest economies.

Mr. Kim described South Korea's relationship with the United States as "mutually beneficial" on matters of

See KIM, Page 4

## Beset by Crime, Germany to Loosen Bugging Cords

By William Drozdik  
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — The German government announced a major change in civil liber-

ties law on Thursday that will grant the police greater powers to plant bugging devices in private homes to collect evidence against criminal suspects.

The landmark change, reached after delicate negotiations between Chancellor Helmut Kohl's governing conservatives and the opposition Social Democrats, will permit eavesdropping practices banned by the constitution since 1945 because of widespread abuses during the Nazi era.

Germany has maintained some of the West's strictest privacy protections because of the Nazi legacy, but anxiety about soaring crime rates impelled political leaders to break with postwar tradition and give the police one of the key crime-fighting tools they have long demanded to cope with drug smuggling and other organized criminal activities.

"This is a decisive step toward more effective ways to fight crime," Interior Minister Manfred Kanther said. "We can now keep surveillance on suspected gangster apartments and we will be able to better fight money laundering."

Leaders of Mr. Kohl's coalition and the Social Democrats said their pact ensured that both houses of Parliament could pass the measure quickly so that German police will be able to coordinate surveillance operations with colleagues from other countries where similar snooping practices have been permitted for years.

But the agreement was quickly attacked by leftists, politicians, civil libertarians and journalists as a threat to basic democratic freedoms in postwar Germany that have guaranteed the privacy of a person's home from intrusions by the state.

The Greens party and the former Communists of the Party of Democratic Socialism lambasted their opposition

See GERMANY, Page 10

Crime and Punishment / Don't Get Arrested in Moscow

## The Illness and Barbarism of Russia's Jails

By Alessandra Stanley  
New York Times Service

**M**OSCOW — Prisoners almost always swear they are not guilty. In the pretrial detention centers of Russia, many inmates insist that they no longer care about proving their innocence.

"At first, all I wanted was a fair trial," Pyotr Kuznetsov, 51, said in a dark and stinking cell of Matrosskaya Tishina, one of Moscow's largest and most infamous detention centers.

He said he had been arrested, and brutally beaten, for stealing about \$5 and had already spent 10 months behind bars awaiting trial. His lice-ridden 18th-century cell, built for 30, was stuffed with more than 100 men. They share beds, sleeping in three shifts.

"All I want now is to get out of here, even to a labor camp," Mr. Kuznetsov said. "I've been in prison before, and it is not as bad as this."

The Russian penitentiary system competes with that in the United States as one of the largest in the world. Each has a population of more than one million inmates. And the Russian system is arguably one of the worst. Prisons are underfinanced, overcrowded and alarmingly unsanitary. Human rights abuses abound. Tuberculosis is spreading wildly.

The government has no reliable data, but estimates suggest that tuberculosis rates in prisons are anywhere from 20 to 60 times as high as in the rest of the population, which has a TB death rate 24 times that of the United States. As many as 50 percent of Russian prisoners are believed to be infected.

But perhaps the most terrifying aspect of the penal system is pretrial detention. Close to 300,000 people awaiting trial are now in jail. There, a death sentence stalks people who have not yet been convicted of a crime.

Unprotected from the TB epidemic and other infectious diseases, many detainees end up spending two, three and even four years awaiting their day in court as packed as a rush-hour subway car.

"During my six years in Soviet prisons, I lived through many horrors," said Valerii Abramkin, a dissident during the Soviet years who is now an advocate for prison reform. "I saw people suspended on iron hooks under their ribs. I saw German shepherds eat living human flesh."

Those tortures, he said, were at least of short duration. Today, people endure inhuman conditions for years. "It is certain that conditions in normal jails were not this bad even under Stalin."

There is no money in the Russian budget to build new prisons or even repair old ones, so efforts to creep closer to Western standards rarely go beyond the paper they are printed on.

A law was passed last year increasing the amount of space to which a prisoner is entitled — from 27 square feet to 43 square feet (2.2 square meters to 3.9 square meters). In the United States, prisoners are supposed to be allotted 80 square feet.

The reality of places like Matrosskaya Tishina is that prisoners fight over less than a square foot.

And the Russian legal system is so tortuous that people can find themselves detained for months or years even on minor charges. Prosecutors are legally required to complete a criminal investigation within two years, but there is no time limit for judges, who can keep a suspect waiting for trial indefinitely. The average stay in detention is 10 months.

In the United States, where every state has a speedy-trial law, the average detention is 74 days. Most defendants get to trial within 45 days. And 65 percent of Americans accused of felonies are released on bail.

In Soviet times, bail was dismissed as a capitalist folly. Today, bail is legal, but it remains a novelty, granted to less than 2 percent of the country's accused — usually to mobsters who have ready cash and connections to a compliant judge.

The courts here operate on the European in-



Cells at Matrosskaya Tishina, Moscow's infamous pre-trial jail, were designed to house 30 inmates. Each one now holds more than 100 in filthy conditions that breed tuberculosis. Fifty percent of Russian prisoners are believed to be infected.

quisitorial model rather than the American adversarial system, putting an additional strain on overloaded judges and narrowing defendants' chances.

"Under our system, it is much harder to acquit than to person guilty," said Sergei Pashin, an appeals court judge in Moscow. "Less than one percent of all cases end in an acquittal, and that is because before a judge can acquit, he must do a huge amount of work that is not done by the police: requesting information, soliciting expert testimony, etc."

**T**HE FACT that time served before trial is subtracted from convicted prisoners' sentences should be fairly viewed as justice, Judge Pashin said. "The pretrial centers are a far worse punishment than any prison," he said. Prisons and labor camps in Russia are grim, but they are not nearly as overcrowded.

The judge added that often in the cases that come before him, confessions are beaten out of suspects — and even out of people rounded up as witnesses.

In a report issued last year on torture in Russia, the human rights group Amnesty International said that "torture and ill-treatment occur at all stages of detention and imprisonment," but noted that it was most often reported in pretrial detention.

"Its main purpose appears to be to intimidate detainees and obtain confessions," the report said. Confessions, more than evidence, are a major part of criminal investigations in Russia.

Inside Matrosskaya Tishina, where 5,000 prisoners are held in a prison built for 2,000, lies a Dickensian world of filth, squalor and disease. Inside fetid, windowless cells, prisoners are covered in lice.

Rats dart out of walls. Prisoners stretch out tin bowls through a tiny opening in the door to receive bread and a gloopy gruel of *kasha*, or buckwheat, that is served for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The exercise yards are cement rooms in the attic, where prisoners can see the sky by squinting through a webbed roof of barbed wire.

Directly outside the prison walls teems another closed circle of misery: Parents and wives, who line up for hours and even days just to deliver a packet of food or medicine to their locked-up relatives.

Matrosskaya Tishina has its own tuberculosis hospital, where 700 infected detainees are being treated in a 220-bed ward. Vasili Podpruzhnikov, Moscow's chief of corrections, said 70 detainees died in the first nine months of 1996 — more than half of them from TB.

"We put them in the hospital, and when they get better they go back to the cells, and within three months they get sick again," he said. "What can you expect with this humidity and overcrowding?"

He said his budget was cut by a third last year, and he expects more cuts this year. Guards make less than \$100 a month, and prisons are seriously understaffed. Escapes are not uncommon. "Only the lazy don't escape from here," he said with a weary smile.

Yuri Skuratov, Russia's chief prosecutor, toured the country's main detention centers last spring and described himself as appalled by what he had seen. He warned that unless "urgent measures" were taken, there could be a "social explosion."

There was a rash of prison riots in 1992, which were harshly put down. Conditions have since worsened, but there have been few major disturbances.

"Inmates understand perfectly well that the prison authorities are not responsible for their conditions," said Yuri Aleksandrov, a prisoners' rights activist for the nonprofit agency Novy Dom. "The whole criminal justice system is to blame. It's a mentality that dates back to Stalin."

Russia, which won admission to the Council of Europe last year on the condition that it reform its criminal justice system, agreed to abolish the death penalty. This year, the government also pledged to transfer jurisdiction over prisons from the Interior Ministry to the Justice Ministry.

The intent is to increase the independence of the judiciary and give the prison authorities some autonomy from law enforcement agencies, but few in Russia expect the change to alter prison conditions.

"It may make a difference, but not for the *zeks*," said Mr. Podpruzhnikov, using the Russian slang for prisoner. "For the *zeks*, nothing is going to change anytime soon."

Food or medicine to their locked-up relatives.

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## After Land-Mine Ban, Assault Rifles Targeted

By Raymond Bonner  
New York Times Service

land-mines campaign, has said trafficking in small arms is next on the agenda.

In Norway, another leader in the land-mines campaign — the Red Cross — and three other nongovernmental groups announced last month that they were opening a campaign against small-arms trafficking. The coalition already has a \$700,000 war chest, some of it from the Norwegian government.

During the Cold War, the world's powers sought to prevent the outbreak of deadly war by controlling the proliferation of nuclear and strategic weapons. A treaty banning chemical weapons went into effect last year.

But no treaty or comprehensive monitoring system exists for small arms or light weapons. These are generally defined as weapons that can be carried by an individual, or fired by a small crew. They include automatic rifles, submachine guns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers, small mortars and shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles.

It is these weapons, in this era of war between ethnic groups, that are wreaking mayhem around the world — in Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda, Sudan, Algeria, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka. The death toll in each of these conflicts has been in the tens of thousands.

Adding to the urgency for action on small arms, more than 80 percent of the victims of the small-arms wars are not combatants, but women and children, a special U.S. committee of government and international experts on small arms said in a report in August.

The ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia was carried out largely with rifles, grenades and light artillery.

Modern technology has also made weapons lighter and easier to use, contributing to a phenomenal rise in child soldiers — who number more than 200,000 under the age of 16, according to the United Nations.

## U.S. Agency May Order Checks On 737s Due to SilkAir Crash

By Don Phillips  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Investigators at the site of a SilkAir crash in Indonesia have discovered parts missing from the tail section of the Boeing 737-300, according to aviation sources, which will probably lead the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration to order inspections of other 737-300s, the world's most popular airliner.

The sources cautioned that the problem found at the scene of the Dec. 19 crash could well be a one-time anomaly that would not indicate a systemic problem in the popular twin-jet, but that the aviation agency could ignore the possibility. The sources said the problem also apparently would not lead investigators any closer to determining a cause for two mysterious 737 crashes, at Pittsburgh and Colorado Springs.

The U.S. agency has issued a brief statement, saying only that it is "intensely" evaluating information from the SilkAir accident scene and "is taking steps to be ready to direct safety inspections on some Boeing 737s should that become necessary."

Sources said initial word from the remote crash scene on the island of Sumatra indicated that fasteners — sometimes called rivets or bolts — were missing from the leading edge of the horizontal stabilizer and from a hinge on the elevator — both of which help control up-and-down movement. Why they were missing is unknown, but sources said the FAA is likely to order inspections, probably immediately.

There are numerous possible reasons for fasteners to be missing: They could have popped out because of crash forces; airplanes have crashed in the past because maintenance forces failed to install enough fasteners after maintenance; vibration, or flutter, in flight is another possibility, although unlikely.

In any case, lack of fasteners might have allowed parts of the plane to work loose gradually or jam in flight. Investigators are to look into this as one of the possible causes of the crash.

The SilkAir plane plunged from a cruising altitude of 35,000 feet (10,600 meters) on the afternoon of Dec. 19 while on a flight from Jakarta to Singapore, killing all 104 people aboard. SilkAir, a subsidiary of Singapore Airlines, flies to 21 cities in Asia.

U.S. interest in the accident has been intense because 737s have been involved in two unexplained crashes in the United States in which planes suddenly plunged from a much lower altitude. The 737 is the world's most widely used airliner, with 2,950 delivered.

## WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©1998 - <http://www.accuweather.com>

North America

Today	High	Low	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Pressure
High	Low	Wind	Cloud	Humidity	Pressure	
Alaska	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Alberta	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
B.C.	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Banff	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Calgary	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Edmonton	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Montreal	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Quebec	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Toronto	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Vancouver	24/21	10/5	W 20-30	80-90%	29.98-29.95	
Victoria						

# and-Mine Ban t Rifles Targeted

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1998

PAGE 3

## THE AMERICAS

### In Canada, a Mea Culpa

Government Apologizes to Native Peoples

By Howard Schneider  
*Washington Post Service*

TORONTO — The government has apologized to the Indian, Inuit and other aboriginal peoples of Canada for decades of mistreatment, offering an emotional atonement for policies that sought to stamp out native culture and confined Indian children in often abusive government-run schools.

Following an Indian drum and dance performance, and clutching a ceremonial feather, Jane Stewart, Canada's minister of Indian affairs and northern development, read an official "Statement of Reconciliation" that acknowledged the damage done to native populations beginning with the arrival of Europeans in the 15th century and running through modern efforts to suppress native religion and language.

The statement dealt in broad terms with an array of offenses, including the hanging of Louis Riel, a leader of the Metis people — descendants of intermingling between early French explorers and native tribes — who was convicted of treason and executed in 1885 for his role in a Saskatchewan uprising.

Ms. Stewart said she hoped the statement would inaugurate a new relationship between Canada and its original residents, and she pledged \$250 million for a "healing fund" to help those who suffered physical and mental abuse at the government-run schools. The schools were not closed until the 1970s and left a legacy of emotional scars among generations of Indians who remember them as places where they were separated from their families, forbidden to speak their languages and, in the harshest cases, physically abused.

Ms. Stewart said, "As a country, we are burdened by past actions that resulted in weakening the identity of aboriginal peoples, suppressing their languages and cultures, and outlawing spiritual practices." She read the statement from a scroll that was presented to representatives of Canada's five major Indian organizations.

The government of Canada today formally expresses to all aboriginal people in Canada our profound regret for past actions of the federal government which have contributed to these difficult pages in the history of our relationship together," she said.

Along with the healing fund, Ms. Stewart said the government would begin working with Indian leaders to develop health, counseling

and economic development programs to address unemployment, teenage suicide and other chronic social problems plaguing many native communities.

Native affairs have remained among Canada's most pressing domestic concerns. Indians are the fastest-growing segment of Canadian society.

Many provinces, most notably British Columbia, are involved in treaty negotiations with Indian groups over basic questions of land title and access to resources that were not settled in the colonial era. On several occasions, courts have recognized aboriginal rights to harvest resources contained on traditional lands — limiting what was assumed to be provincial jurisdiction over forests and fishing grounds, for example.

The statement of reconciliation, therefore, is not only an ethical expression of sorrow but also an acknowledgment that Canada still needs to resolve questions about how to divide the wealth of the land between cultures. After decades of legal battles, time-consuming talks and sometimes violent protests by natives asserting traditional land claims, the statement is a step in the right direction, said Phil Fontaine, grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations, a coalition of native groups.

"For the first time in history," Mr. Fontaine said, "this government has accepted that Canada cannot achieve its full potential" without the success of native peoples who form 2.7 percent of the population but loom much larger in Canada's history and self-image.

Not all Indian leaders were as accepting of the government's comments as Mr. Fontaine. Some said the apology was not strong enough and that the remedial steps announced were insufficient for a government expecting to run a budget surplus.

Reasons, Mr. Bennett said in a television interview.

"One, Paula Jones and her principal advisers," he said, "are of the view that they will sell more books with a splashy trial. I'm not guessing, I'm not speculating, I know that for a fact." Mr. Bennett said those advisers included Mrs. Jones's husband and her spokeswoman.

"Secondly, the people funding the litigation, such as the Rutherford Institute, they want to embarrass the president," Mr. Bennett added, referring to the Virginia-based nonprofit conservative group.

As it stands now, Mr. Clinton is to testify on Jan. 17 at the White House. But that may be delayed.

Mr. Bennett said that disclosure of the deposition date on Wednesday by The Washington Times made it likely that the deposition would be delayed, in part because it could create a media spectacle with Mrs. Jones's arrival at the White House.

"That's been a soft date now that it has been leaked," Mr. Bennett said.

Mr. Clinton has denied Mrs. Jones's allegations and said he does not recall meeting her.

(AP, Reuters)

### Jones Will Attend Clinton Deposition

Face-to-Face Meeting Is Expected

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Paula Jones intends to confront President Bill Clinton face-to-face when he testifies in her sexual harassment suit against him, a spokeswoman for Mrs. Jones said. The president's lawyer responded that she had the right to be there.

"I don't know when or where the deposition will be taken, but whenever it is, Paula will be there," Susan Carpenter McMillan, the spokeswoman, said Wednesday.

"Paula Corbin Jones will be sitting across that table from William Jefferson Clinton," and he is "going to have to look her straight in the eye and either be forced to tell the truth or perjure himself," Ms. McMillan added.

Robert Bennett, Mr. Clinton's lawyer, said he would not challenge Mrs. Jones's request to be present at the deposition.

"She's a party to the case and she can be there," he said.

On Thursday, Mr. Bennett said the case would not be settled out of court because advisers to Mrs. Jones wanted to profit financially from a trial.

"I think we're going to go to trial for two fundamental

reasons," Mr. Bennett said in a television interview.

"One, Paula Jones and her principal advisers," he said, "are of the view that they will sell more books with a splashy trial. I'm not guessing, I'm not speculating, I know that for a fact." Mr. Bennett said those advisers included Mrs. Jones's husband and her spokeswoman.

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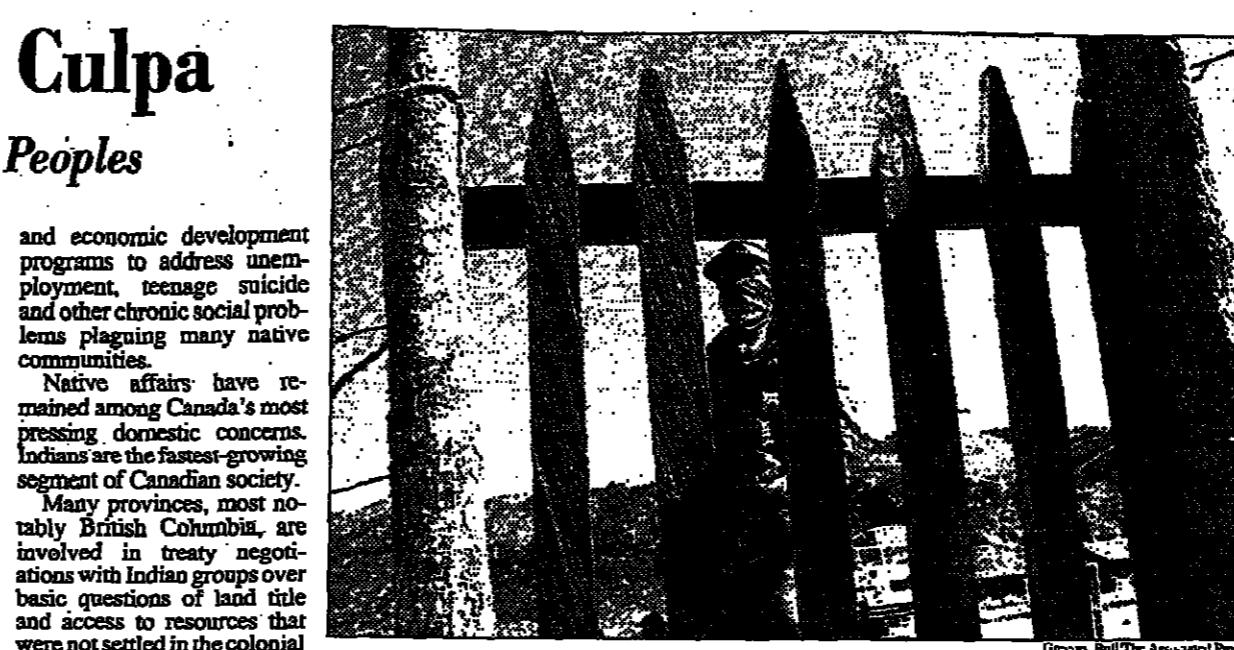
### Away From Politics

A 3-year-old girl who contracted polio from a dose of oral vaccine has received a multimillion-dollar settlement. Marian Fadayel cannot breath on her own or feed herself and has limited use of her limbs. A judge in San Mateo County, California, appointed her parents to handle the settlement that will pay them \$1 million outright and \$350,000 more each year for her care. The child's medical bills so far total \$1.5 million. (AP)

An Idaho state judge ordered an FBI sharpshooter to stand trial for involuntary manslaughter in the killing of Vicki Weaver, the wife of the white separatist Randy Weaver, during the 1992 siege at Ruby Ridge. The judge's finding of probable cause in the case against Lon Horwitz is a rare instance in which a federal agent has faced a criminal trial for killing a suspect, the prosecutor said. (WP)

Two F-16 fighter jets collided over the Utah desert, forcing one pilot to eject before his jet crashed and burned. The other pilot landed safely, and neither was seriously injured. (AP)

An animal trainer remained in critical condition with severe head wounds after a tiger he had raised from infancy bit his head and refused to let go. The trainer's brother shot and killed the 350-pound (158-kilogram) tiger after the attack. Richard Chipperfield, 24, was attacked while a dozen tigers were inside a ring for a practice of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey circus in St. Petersburg, Florida. (AP)



A Zapista rebel standing guard at a guerrilla base in Oventic, Chiapas. Villagers who had fled after the Mexican Army set up a post nearby returned this week.

### Chiapas Governor Resigns

Official Is Accused of Ignoring Warnings of Massacre

By Julia Preston  
*New York Times Service*

MEXICO CITY — The governor of the southern state of Chiapas has resigned, becoming the latest high-level politician to fall in the aftermath of the December killings of 45 Indian villagers by a pro-government paramilitary gang in a hamlet in his state.

Governor Julio Cesar Ruiz Ferro, who has been accused by Roman Catholic Church and opposition leaders in Chiapas of ignoring many warning signs of tension in the region, requested an indefinite leave of absence, saying only that Chiapas "needs a new strategy."

President Ernesto Zedillo did not ask directly for the resignation, officials close to Mexico's leader said, but sent numerous signals since the Dec. 22 killings that he was dissatisfied with the Chiapas governor, who is a member of Mr. Zedillo's political party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI.

"The message is clear: In this case we are not going to protect anyone," an official said. "Human lives were lost because the governor did not have a clear view of what was happening in his state. He should have had a grip on it, and he didn't."

Immediately after the killings the president wrested the investigation out of the hands of state authorities and handed it over to the country's attorney general.

Several senior officials of Mr. Ruiz Ferro's

administration, including his chief of staff and top security official, are being investigated by the federal authorities for possible criminal negligence in connection with the violence in the hamlet of Acteal, in the Tzotzil Indian township of Chenalho.

A top Catholic prelate, the Reverend Gonzalo Juarez, said he called the state security chief at midday on Dec. 22 to relay reports of gunfire received from villagers in Chenalho. Although there is a joint state police and army outpost within a mile of the hamlet, security forces were never dispatched to the scene, even while the shootings of unarmed Indian refugees, including many women and children, continued throughout the afternoon.

On Jan. 3, Mr. Zedillo dismissed the interior minister, Emilio Chuayffet Chemor, who had been his top political operator. Mr. Chuayffet was in charge of guiding negotiations with the Zapista rebels. The talks broke down in late 1996, leaving the conflict at a standstill.

So far, Mr. Ruiz Ferro has not been the target of a criminal investigation.

Some 46 people, most of them Tzotzil Indians from neighboring villages in the same township, have been arrested on charges up to first degree murder in the killings. The Chenalho mayor, Jacinto Arias Cruz, also a member of the government party, was accused of organizing and arming the gang of killers and is in jail on charges of assault and conspiracy.

### POLITICAL NOTES

#### Cisneros Pleads Not Guilty

WASHINGTON (AP) — Henry Cisneros, the former housing secretary, pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges that he lied to conceal payments made to his former mistress while he was under consideration as a cabinet member.

Mr. Cisneros appeared at the federal court arraignment along with the woman, Linda Jones, who is also charged with participating in the conspiracy to obstruct the FBI background investigation as Bill Clinton was preparing to take office.

Mr. Cisneros is accused of concealing that he paid Ms. Jones more than \$250,000 to maintain silence about their affair. Most of the money was paid before Mr. Cisneros became head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, but the indictment charges he paid Ms. Jones nearly \$80,000 his first year in office.

Two former employees, John Rosales and Sylvia Arellano, also pleaded not guilty to charges that they took part in the conspiracy to conceal their boss's payments to Ms. Jones. Both had worked at Mr. Cisneros's San Antonio communications company and followed him to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin set the trial for Nov. 2. (AP)

#### Fix California, Wilson Urges

SACRAMENTO, California — Governor Pete Wilson, saying that "the state of the state is strong and getting stronger every day," warned lawmakers at their opening legislative session that California's prosperity was still threatened by crumbling public facilities and expanding government.

Mr. Wilson said the state had a duty — especially during good times — to repair outdated buildings and structures. He asked lawmakers to place nearly \$7 billion in construction bonds on the ballot this year for state schools and colleges, parks, prisons, water facilities and environmental resources.

At the same time, Mr. Wilson responded to Republican concerns about such major new spending plans by announcing that he would seek voter approval for a new and tighter cap on annual budget growth.

"California has become the powerhouse of the Pacific," he said. "But a word of caution: The nightmare of the early 1990s wasn't just a recession. California was losing jobs wholesale because we'd ceased to be attractive to investors and job creators."

"Never, ever again can we let that happen to California," he added. (AP)

#### Quote/Unquote

Moorhead Kennedy, a former U.S. embassy hostage in Iran, on President Mohammed Khatami's call for new contacts with Americans: "They were arguments very familiar to me from my hostage days. Things haven't changed that much. What came through very clearly was their view, they have nothing against Americans. It's simply U.S. government policy that they disagree with in certain key areas." (AP)

he was hired as a consultant to clean up the mess he had left to

— and the indictment of one of the city's five commissioners, or council members, on charges of money laundering and mortgage fraud.

That commissioner, Humberto Hernandez Jr., whose predecessor is serving a 27-month prison term for accepting a \$200,000 payoff from a company bidding on a city computer contract, promptly tried to flee the investigation into the state attorney's inquiry of voter fraud.

In an FBI investigation called "Operation Greenpalm," he has resulted in prison sentences for a former city manager for accepting bribes; the resignation of the port director amid charges of lavish entertainment and illegal campaign contributions — offset when

J. L. Plummer Jr., a city commissioner, said Wednesday that Mr. Suarez is "going too fast. People have urged him to slow down, take things easier, be more methodical in his actions."

### Miami Mayor's Antics Keep Radio Call-In Lines Ringing

By Donald P. Baker  
*Washington Post Service*

MIAMI — Even if the voice on the answering machine at The Miami Herald had not been a familiar one, the caller left no doubt: "This is the mayor of Miami," said Xavier Suarez.

The volatile mayor, whose actions and antics have shaken an already unstable city government — his first three appointees as city manager quit rather than heed his demand to fire a popular police chief — warned the newspaper to "be nice to me, my people, my citizens and my city" or face the loss of \$200,000 a year in city ads.

"I know that we are subsidizing you and your newspaper with ads related to official notices of the city," Mr. Suarez said.

Derisively referring to the Herald's publisher, David Lawrence Jr., as the "maximum leader of the free world for the publishing company," the mayor threatened to "figure out every possible way of advertising in any possible newspaper except yours" if he did not get better treatment.

The newspaper, which has

shadowed Mr. Suarez closely since he took office Nov. 14 — the day after he was elected, having barely survived a primary on the strength of absentee ballots that are still being investigated for possible fraud — responded by making his recorded call available on the Herald's call-in information service.

Mr. Suarez, a Harvard-educated lawyer who served as mayor from 1989 to 1993, promised to take swift action to get the city back on track upon being elected Miami's first executive mayor. The city's voters approved a charter change in September that gave the mayor greater powers.

But few expected that in seeking that goal Mr. Suarez, 48, would:

• Knock on the door of a retired city employee late at night to confront her about a critical letter she had written to him, only to be greeted by a 38-caliber gun and a request to go away.

• Pledge to make Miami the world's cleanest city by the end of 1997, even if garbage workers had to work overtime, an idea the workers' union quickly vetoed.

But it is not just columnists

who are talking about the mayor's actions. His conduct is debated daily on the city's radio stations, especially the Spanish-language ones, and in Little Havana, the heart of Mr. Suarez's Cuban-American constituency. Many support his attack on the Herald and other bastions of the business establishment.

And a University of Miami political scientist, Annette Steinacker, said that Mr. Suarez was right in "legitimately testing the boundaries" of his new powers by attempting to replace the police chief and reduce the number of city workers. But she said he was wrong in continuing to push issues that he could not win.

A former mayor, Maurice Ferre, said on a Spanish radio program: "He is destroying Miami."

Despite its glistening skyline and shimmering beaches, multicultural Miami is the nation's fourth poorest city, still growing because of an unending stream of legal and illegal immigrants. Many affluent residents have fled to the suburbs.

Joe Carolla, the former mayor who was defeated by Mr. Suarez in a runoff election, said last fall that Miami

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

## Phnom Penh Bans 6 Papers For 'Defaming' Leadership

Reuters

PHNOM PENH — The Cambodian Information Ministry suspended six opposition newspapers Thursday on the grounds that they had defamed the country's leaders and threatened national security.

It instructed the Interior Ministry to seize all copies of the papers on newsstands and banned companies from printing the publications. The papers have recently published stinging attacks on the coup leader, Cambodia, Hun Sen.

The Information Ministry cited one article comparing the Cambodian leader to a dog and others accusing him of sympathizing with Vietnam and seeking to intimidate Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the former co-prime minister, who was deposed in a coup last year.

"Those six newspapers have published false news that curses and defames the leaders of the royal government, curses and defames our national institutions, affects national security and political stability and violates the press law," the secretary of state for information, Khiem Kanharith, wrote in a letter to the Interior Ministry.

The Cambodian-language press is known for its strong partisanship and tough attacks on politicians.

Cambodia's press law says newspapers cannot publish articles that threaten national security, and several Cambodian newspapers have recently been suspended under that rule.

In a letter to printing companies, Mr. Khiem Kanharith warned that the authorities would punish companies violating the order to halt printing of the six newspapers.

The newspapers that were suspended were Samleng Samaphap, Antarakum, Komnit Kaum Khamer, Proyuth, Neak Tosi and Kolvot Angkor.

On Wednesday, Mr. Khiem Kanharith dropped a threat to expel Ed Fitzgerald, a Canadian correspondent for the Asia Business News network, who was accused of overly negative reporting. The Information Ministry accused some journalists last month of becoming mouthpieces for extremists and warned reporters to make their articles more balanced.



David van der Velde/Agence France-Presse  
A Cambodian policeman reading a newspaper while on break Thursday. He had put his AK-47 rifle aside.

## BRIEFLY

### Taiwan Delays Its Plan to Ship Nuclear Waste to North Korea

TAIPEI — Taiwan's Atomic Energy Council said Thursday that Taiwan Power Co. had not dropped a plan to ship nuclear waste to North Korea, but it was delayed by a review to certify the secretive Stalinist state's installations.

"The North Korean nuclear waste project is still undergoing the review process," Chiu Tzu-tsung, director of the government council's Radwaste Administration, said by telephone.

"We are waiting for Taipower to submit documentation to show that North Korea has completed construction of the waste site," he added. "The plan will be carried out after we finish our review."

On Wednesday, the nuclear power news agency NucNet, quoting Taiwan's Atomic Energy Council, said that Taipower had shelved the plan and would propose a new site on Taiwan to store low-level radioactive waste.

Mr. Chiu said he was unaware of the NucNet report but acknowledged recent local media speculation that the plan might be abandoned.

(Reuters)

### Nepal Leader Asks for Elections

KATMANDU, Nepal — Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa of Nepal recommended new elections following a threatened no-confidence vote by the Communist opposition.

State radio said Mr. Thapa had asked King Birendra to dissolve Parliament and schedule a date for elections.

The Himalayan kingdom's three-month-old centrist gov-

ernment is the fourth since November 1994 elections produced a hung Parliament. Mr. Thapa took office on Oct. 6.

State radio said King Birendra had begun consultations on the political developments and had met Mr. Thapa on Thursday at Pokhara, 200 kilometers west of the capital, Katmandu.

(Reuters)

### China Sends Relief to Province

BEIJING — Authorities in China's northwestern Qinghai Province have sent grain, gasoline and diesel fuel to areas where heavy snowfalls have killed livestock and threatened nomadic herdsman, a local official said Thursday.

"The snowstorms affected about 30,000 people in the area," said the official in Yushu city. "Some suffered from snow blindness and frostbite."

Yushu, about 40 kilometers north of the border that separates Qinghai and Tibet, has been hit by 40 snowstorms since September. No deaths have been reported. (Reuters)

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Mr. Chiu said he was unaware of the NucNet report but acknowledged recent local media speculation that the plan might be abandoned.

(Reuters)

### Taleban Denies Massacre Charge

KABUL — The ruling Taleban Islamic movement in Afghanistan said Thursday that its forces were not in the area of a reported massacre of more than 600 civilians in the northeast of the country on Jan. 1 and 2. It said the killings could have been the work of opposition forces.

The opposition alliance accuses retreating Taleban forces of having killed the civilians.

Taleban also announced that it had released 28 prisoners of war from the opposition.

(Reuters)

## INDONESIA: A Sense of Confusion in Jakarta as Currency and Stocks Plunge Further

Continued from Page 1

to step aside — unusual in a country where politics is marked by deference to authority — Mr. Suharto, a retired army general, is likely to be chosen again by the assembly, which he effectively controls.

They said that in announcing a budget Tuesday that called for increased spending, Mr. Suharto was seeking to minimize social and political unrest before the March presidential elections. The budget was criticized by analysts and officials from the United States and the International Monetary Fund for not

meeting austerity targets agreed to in connection with a \$40 billion standby loan for Indonesia. Analysts also said Mr. Suharto appeared reluctant to subject his family's extensive business interests to the full rigors of IMF-mandated reforms.

"His declining health will increase the Suharto family's desire to protect its interests," said David Brown, senior associate at the Asia Pacific Policy Center in Washington. "There are worrying signs of family pressures to reverse reforms and force out Finance Minister Mar'ie Muhammad."

Uncertainty over Mr. Suharto's

politics, health and political intentions, and his refusal to heed calls to designate a vice president and successor immediately are contributing to the panic selling of the rupiah and stocks, analysts said.

"We now have a weak president in Indonesia," said Mr. Gale of Political & Economic Risk Consultancy, "and if he stands again, we could very well continue to have one at a time when strong leadership is needed."

"That will be bad news for the economy," he added. "You'll have policy paralysis in the government."

On Wednesday, the Clinton admin-

istration warned Indonesia that it was crucial that it begin complying with the terms of the IMF bailout. Washington thus joined the IMF in sending Mr. Suharto a blunt message: If Indonesia does not fulfill its reform commitments, the money will be cut off.

"We've tried the quiet approach," one official told The New York Times. "Now the message is being sent through the markets."

Within the Clinton administration, a debate has already begun over how to handle Indonesia in coming months. The Times reported, Treasury officials have made clear that unless Indonesia complies with terms of the IMF accord, continuing support would undercut the credibility of other IMF bailouts around the world.

### ■ No Panic in the Government

Keith B. Richburg of the Washington Post reported from Hong Kong:

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said there were no emergency meetings to deal with the crisis, and no sense of panic among government officials. "So far, what I've been hearing are expressions of optimism on the government side, sticking it out and receiving more punches," he said.

"There is no sense of panic, so we'll just keep on watching and see how long these punches will go on," he added.

He said Indonesians had been cushioned from their country's economic collapse because, so far, prices have not markedly increased, and most people still operate in a rupiah-only economy.

A journalist in Jakarta said by telephone that there were few visible signs so far that Indonesia was careening toward economic disaster. Prices for rice and cooking oil have increased as much as 30 percent. But transportation costs, a key measure, have remained virtually unchanged since the onset of the crisis, with the government still holding down petroleum prices through costly subsidies. "Most people are blissfully unaware of the real situation," the journalist said.

Shoppers lining up to buy basic foodstuffs in Jakarta on Thursday as rumors of sharp price increases spread through the Indonesian capital after the rupiah lost 16 percent of its value in a single trading day.

## KIM: President-Elect Blames Asian Financial Crisis on Authoritarian Government

Continued from Page 1

with coils of barbed wire to keep North Korean agents from coming ashore from the Han River.

Mr. Kim laughed when he noted the irony that government security agents were stationed at his house, much as they were during his years of house arrest in the 1980s, when he lived in a house in Seoul. Then, they were imprisoning a man condemned as a threat to the nation; now they are guarding a man about to become its chief executive.

"These people are now protecting me; before they were trying to contain me," Mr. Kim said. "The thought of doing this for five years in the Blue House makes me a little uneasy, even embarrassed."

Mr. Kim spoke at length about the financial crisis facing South Korea, contending that the nation needs a thorough reform of government and corporate financial structures that have led the nation to the brink of insolvency.

"In order to rejuvenate the Korean economy, I believe we have to do two things," Mr. Kim said. "The first is to increase our export volume, and the other is to induce foreign investment. We will

be very aggressive on both. Our new administration is going to take all these policies not because of the requirement by the international community or the IMF, but we will take this opportunity to reform our economic system so that we can be competitive in the world economy."

Mr. Kim said he believed the problem in South Korea in the past had been a lack of the transparency in government and finance that comes in a fully functioning democracy. The Asian crisis that has swept from Indonesia and Thailand and Malaysia to South Korea, and now threatens Japan, is a failure to install a vibrant democracy to keep governments and markets accountable, he said.

"If we had true democracy in Korea, then the collusive intimacy between business and government and corruption would not have been as great here. And the wealth would not have been allocated to only a few people. Usually the dictatorship or authoritarian style of government lies to people. We've been told we are very wealthy, and we have been told to spend dollars abroad because we had too many of them. We had approximately \$40 billion of deficit

when President Kim Young Sam came in, and now we have \$150 billion of deficit. So basically we've been living well off the loans that we've been given, the people have been deceived, and that's why we have this financial crisis."

The ultimate solution to South Korea's problems, Mr. Kim said, was increased investment, especially by foreigners. He said Seoul was moving quickly toward removing limits on foreign ownership of stocks and real estate, as well as upgrading South Korea's murky accounting practices, which make it virtually impossible to assess the financial health of a company — or the government.

"We want to induce investment by making foreign investors feel they have no problems here," Mr. Kim said.

During the election campaign, Mr. Kim alarmed foreign investors and analysts by suggesting that Seoul should renegotiate the IMF deal. On Thursday, he acknowledged that he initially did not "understand the full depth" of the financial crisis, and he blamed President Kim for misleading him and the South Korean people.

"We are just waiting for their response," he said.

Two days after his 74th birthday, Mr. Kim appeared rested, robust and confident as he discussed the triumph and tragedy of his life, and the severe problems facing the nation he will lead when he is sworn in on Feb. 25. Mr. Kim's house is just 16 kilometers (10 miles) from the tense Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas; the highway to his town is lined with a fence topped

with coils of barbed wire to keep North Korean agents from coming ashore from the Han River.

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## U.S. Newsman Quits Seoul Jail

### But Libel Charge Keeps Korean-American in Country

The Associated Press

SEOUL — A Korean-American journalist imprisoned three weeks ago on libel charges was released Thursday pending trial.

Richard Choi, 49, a newsman for Los Angeles-based KBLA-AM, or Radio Korea, was set free shortly after midnight but must remain in the country until the case is resolved, Seoul court officials said.

Violators of South Korea's libel laws can face up to five years in prison.

Mr. Choi was arrested four days after he reported from Seoul on Dec. 15 that the Hankook Ilbo-Korea Times newspaper group, which runs an FM radio station in Los Angeles that competes with Mr. Choi's station, was in financial trouble and might be merged with the Hyundai group.

Hankook filed a libel lawsuit against Mr. Choi, accusing him of malicious slander by trying to cripple the news-

paper during a nationwide financial crisis and causing the newspaper serious financial problems due to the withdrawal of advertising.

Hankook welcomed Mr. Choi's release but said it had no plan to drop the criminal charges it has filed against him.

"We also want to make sure that it's a mere criminal case, not a human-rights issue as being claimed by Radio Korea," said Lee Sang Suk, a spokesman for Hankook Ilbo.

Mr. Lee said his newspaper was considering filing a separate civil suit seeking financial compensation.

As one of the conditions of his release, Mr. Choi cannot leave South Korea until his case has been closed. No date has been set for his trial.

Mr. Choi's wife, Choi Young Yun, said, "All his travel documents, including his passport, have been seized by immigration officials. He can't leave without court permission."

## INTERNATIONAL

## Defense of Virginity Tests Enrages Turkish Women

By Stephen Kinzer  
New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — Outraged Turkish feminists are demanding the resignation of the cabinet minister in charge of women's affairs after she defended the traditional practice of subjecting women to virginity tests.

"Women are not reluctant to participate in politics," said the association chairman, Selma Sanihan, after Ms. Saygin's interview was published. "They have been treated as second-class citizens."

Turkish law makes no reference to the practice of virginity tests, but many parents consider them reasonable.

"Sometimes headmasters of schools bring girls in for tests, and if it is found that the girls are not virgins they can be expelled," said Sahika Yuksel, an Istanbul doctor who is among those calling for Ms. Saygin's resignation.

"Police often bring women in for tests if they are found in a flirtatious or romantic situation," she said. "If they are not virgins they can be charged with practicing prostitution or brought back to their families, where they often face serious problems."

## BRIEFLY

### Netanyahu Urges United Peace Effort

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu scrambled to defuse tensions with Washington and his defense chief Thursday, urging unruly coalition partners not to stand still on Middle East peace.

Throwing down a challenge apparently aimed at hard-liners opposed to ceding West Bank land to the Palestinians, he said, "If you believe what I believe, you'll join me, and if you don't, you'll part with me."

Mr. Netanyahu spoke during a Middle East visit by the U.S. special envoy, Dennis Ross, and in the face of a threat by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, a relative moderate, to quit unless Mr. Netanyahu picked up the pace of peacemaking with Palestinians.



# Herald Tribune

INTERNATIONAL

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

## Iran and America

Americans accustomed to Iranian clerics fulminating against the United States may have been pleasantly surprised to encounter Mohammed Khatami on CNN Wednesday evening. The new president spoke admiringly of American civilization, sprinkling his comments with respectful references to the Pilgrims and Abraham Lincoln. He called for cultural and education exchanges between Iran and America. But for all the friendly gestures, the hard edge of Iran's hostility to America was still present. By the end of Mr. Khatami's interview, with Christiane Amanpour, it was clear that there would be no quick healing of the rift between Tehran and Washington.

Changing the tone of Iranian rhetoric about the United States is itself an achievement, and Mr. Khatami may have gone as far as he could for now, given the resistance of Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, to better relations with Washington. Mr. Khatami in the interview was the first Iranian leader since the 1979 revolution to offer even a hint of remorse over the seizure of American hostages then. But he badly miscalculated in thinking that

the American people do not share their government's grave misgivings about Iranian policies and behavior.

Mr. Khatami's attack on the American government as the cause of poverty and oppression around the world was crude and rigidly ideological. His complaints about American policy toward Iran were simplistic, although not entirely without merit on the question of Washington's blind support for the corrupt regime of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. His remarks seemed to leave little room for a dialogue with the Clinton administration about such matters as Iranian support for terrorism, opposition to the Middle East peace effort and efforts to develop nuclear weapons. His characterization of the Israeli government as a "racist, terrorist regime" was offensive.

The years of enmity between Washington and Tehran should end. The hostility no longer serves the interest of either nation. But it cannot be eliminated, or even productively addressed, if Mr. Khatami will not countenance direct discussions with the American government.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## The Nichols Sentence

How do you sentence a man convicted of conspiring to commit the worst act of domestic terrorism in American history yet acquitted of the act itself, convicted of manslaughter in the deaths that it caused but acquitted of murder for those same deaths? It is no great surprise that the jury in the trial of Terry L. Nichols, having rendered a verdict this internally inconsistent, has deadlocked on whether Mr. Nichols deserves death.

On one level, the death penalty is the obvious sentence; it seems outrageous, after all, to execute someone for a street murder but to let live a man who plotted to blow up a building where 168 innocents would die.

On the other hand, the jury had its reasons for distinguishing Mr. Nichols's crime from that of Timothy McVeigh, who was sentenced to death, and that distinction should, perhaps, be translated into a less severe punishment.

An internally inconsistent verdict is not necessarily illegitimate. Juries do not act with a single mind. There are compromises between jurors who believe one thing and those who believe another. Verdicts represent the judgment that 12 independent processors of the same information can all live with.

In Mr. Nichols's case, some jurors thought that he played only a small role in the bombing, while others thought his part much larger. Jurors were concerned about the possible existence of the elusive John Doe No. 2 and about perceived inadequacies in the government's investigation.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

## Playing Dangerously

Death during recreation is nearly always accidental, and an accidental death is, by definition, a preventable death. The skiing accidents that killed Michael Kennedy and Sonny Bond would never have happened, or so it is easy to say after the fact, if Mr. Kennedy had not been playing football and Mr. Bond had stayed out of the trees.

In the aftermath, the risks seem unacceptable. But in the moments before both accidents, the risks must have seemed perfectly reasonable to both men. They did not buy lift tickets in the hopes of toying with death. Few skiers do. Nor did Anatoli Boukreev, the Russian mountaineer who died in an avalanche several weeks ago, begin his ascent of Annapurna intending to flirt with extinction.

But the chance of serious injury and death is always there, especially as the popularity of extreme sports increases. That is why nearly every true sophisticate of an inherently risky sport — anything from surfing to mountain climbing — tries to offset risk with preparation. The higher the degree of conditioning, experience and mental discipline an athlete enjoys, the higher the degree of risk he can accept.

The point is not usually to pursue risk per se, but to pursue a level of physical and mental challenge that increases even as the risks attending failure increase, too. Danger intensifies concentration, but concentration is nearly always a means of diminishing danger. That is the simple equilibrium of every hazardous sport.

### Other Comment

#### Algerian Humiliation

Among all the Arabs who suffered humiliation under the Ottoman, British and French empires, Algerians have felt the most definitively humiliated of all. But today one is more humiliated in Algeria, than ever. Precisely because there was a grand opportunity to emerge from humiliation with independence, sacrifices, oil, gas, trained elites, rebelling people and martyrs. Rarely, very rarely, has a country wasted so many chances so radically and so quickly.

—Jean Daniel, commenting in *Le Nouvel Observateur* (Paris).

## Algeria Cannot Be Left Alone With Its Horrors

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — The atrocious butcheries in Algeria have reached a dramatic new scale just as public opinion in the West is turning from ignorance to apathy to outrage. There is a comparison with Bosnia in the sense that it took a year or more for people elsewhere to realize the horror and then begin demanding with increasing insistence that their governments "do something."

European governments, and to a somewhat lesser extent the U.S. government, are facing that kind of public pressure now. They recognize that they can no longer pretend not to notice. But so far they cannot think of what to do beyond express repugnance, and talk to each other about it.

There is lots of talk going on. Algeria is on the agenda of practically every European Union meeting, and Washington is checking the European capitals. Germany's foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, has proposed the dispatch of an EU special mission to look into the situation and see what might be done to help suppress the terrorism and aid the victims.

The Algerian government has not yet officially responded, but it has rejected all previous suggestions as intolerable interference.

despite its special importance to people here, did not specify who is to blame.

The role of the government and army has been murky. There are rumors that sometimes they have been responsible for crimes in order to rally the disaffected population against Islamic extremists fighting for power. There have been no proofs. But it has been widely noticed that even when there have been military installations quite nearby and the massacres go on for hours, no one has come to the defense of the victims.

It is a poignant example of the dilemma of the law of nations, the right of unquestioned sovereignty versus the duty to provide the most basic human right, the right not to be murdered.

So it is essential to find a way to put some pressure on the Algerian government. A coalition of important countries — and it must be coordinated — should tell the government that if it is unable to protect its people, they will be sympathetic to a request for help.

The Algerian government angrily denounced as "unacceptable" a formal French statement condemning these "acts of barbaric savagery" and noting the "legitimate right of the Algerian population to be protected." France, which has been generally supportive of the government up to now and kept a low profile on the issue

as well as put the main burden of punishment on the suffering population.

Is it blackmail? Yes, and well justified, leaving it up to Algiers how much it wants to be inconvenienced and isolated. The benefits of full participation in the international community require the observation of certain minimum human standards.

It would be of great help if Islamic authorities, voices of the religious community as well as of governments, spoke loudly to denounce the murders as violations of the meaning of Islam.

Surprisingly, the Iranian government, which Algiers has held responsible for supporting the terrorists, has openly called for measures by the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to "prevent such inhuman acts."

Western governments can quietly encourage friendly Arab states to join the chorus of opprobrium.

Something does have to be done. It is not easy, because the familiar tools do not work. It takes creative diplomacy to find the effective pressure points. Just to give up and weep in despair helps no one. This is what the concept of international community is supposed to be about.

Flora Lewis.

## Japan: The Wait for Economic Reform May Be Long

By Tom Plate

LOS ANGELES — If 1997 was the year of China, with the historic takeover of Hong Kong, coronation of a new leader and summit with America, 1998 should prove the year of Japan, for better or for worse.

Probably for worse. It would be a timely moment indeed for long overdue changes from the world's second-largest economy, but the so-called too-big-to-fail nation doesn't look ready to make many. It could be a long year for everyone.

No one is saying it publicly, but Japan is in danger of becoming a regional menace. Its head-in-the-sand policy of seeking to escape further recession by peddling its own goods while protecting its markets and keeping its policy mind closed raises serious ethical questions about the role of this world power in Asia.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto continues to promul-

gate astonishing policies. Last spring his government virtually doubled the sales tax, further suppressing the inclination to spend. That threw other exporting Asian nations into renewed despair that Japan will ever be the consuming savior of their cheap manufacturing industries.

How much will America and Europe by themselves be able to import? Only a domestically stimulated Japanese economy with markets open to imports can reinvigorate Asia's out-of-balance regional economy.

But except for the planned "big bang" reforms designed to open domestic financial businesses to foreign investment and involvement, reform isn't in the Japanese air; denial is.

"There is absolutely no sign," writes the respected Japanese newspaper columnist Akio Ogawa in the *Asahi Evening*

News, "that Hashimoto, the ruling party, the bureaucracy, banks and other businesses behind them might take the strong but curative medicine."

Warns a recent report from the U.S.-Japan 21st Century Committee, co-chaired by former prime minister, Kiichi Miyazawa: "The first task for Japan, which is 20 years behind the global trend toward liberalization, is to reform its economic structure and the social structure which supports it ... It must achieve a scale and speed of reform that will make up for 20 years' delay."

Japan is the deluded prisoner of its own spectacular self-to-others/buy-our-own formula. Its establishment seems determined to preserve as much of its insular system as possible.

What does the world want Japan to do? "Backs to the wall,"

we say, the Japanese have no choice but to free their economy, deregulate their markets, privatize everything and in general get with the program we call "globalization," writes Patrick Smith in the *Washington Quarterly*.

Don't hold your breath, though, advises this author of the provocative new book "Japan: A Reinterpretation": "We seem to think we are watching a short, while in my view we are in for a very long movie."

Mr. Hashimoto's policies are not even working for Japan, much less its Asian neighbors. Last year the yen depreciated by about 12 percent, and overall the Japanese stock market declined by 21 percent.

In December, reacting to all the criticism, Mr. Hashimoto proffered a relatively piddling tax cut in an ineffectual effort to compensate for the damaging April blunder. That is not nearly

enough to stimulate the domestic spending and consumption that would soak up goods from places like Indonesia and Thailand, not to mention America.

If the economy does not improve and Mr. Hashimoto stays on, you can anticipate stormy Japanese-U.S. relations. As the U.S.-Japanese trade imbalance widens even more when Japan seeks to climb out of its recession by exporting goods made cheaper by the yen's devaluation, U.S. politicians will start bashing Japan again.

That might prompt the Japanese public to rally around Mr. Hashimoto if he predictably lashes back.

If Japan continues on its present course, it will have only itself to blame if it drags the region's economy onto a continued downward slide, thus triggering worldwide retrenchment and recession.

Los Angeles Times.

## People Have Rights, but They Also Have Responsibilities

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights occurs next December.

That declaration reiterated, in the shocked aftermath of the Second World War, what earlier was affirmed in the American Declaration of Independence in 1776, in the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution, and in the French Constituent Assembly's Declaration, in 1789, of the Rights of Man and Citizen. All that humans possess rights.

This argument rests on the notion of "natural" law, developed in the Middle Ages and reaffirmed in the 18th century Scottish and French enlightenment.

The existence of natural law was held to imply the existence of rights that people possess by virtue of what they are, and because of their natural relationship to one another in society.

A right is "that which is morally just or due." This presupposes agreement about what is just and moral. An affirmation of human rights is a statement about the nature of society. In the case of the UN declaration, the statement was essentially Western in origin and philosophy.

The UN declaration has been criticized as hypocritical, since many of the governments voting for it in 1948 neither respected nor intended to respect any claims by their citizens which limited their power. But even hypocrisy has its uses, and the universal declaration has significantly influenced events since 1948 by making the defense of human rights an issue in international relations.

Other criticisms have come from Asia, where it is said that the Western concept of human rights stop when they infringe the rights of another. But this reflects a Western, adversarial conception of justice. In practice, it usually means that if you infringe my rights I'll sue you.

A group of 24 former chiefs of state or government, including former prime ministers of Thailand, Singapore, South Korea and Japan, and ex-prime ministers or prime ministers from the United States, Canada, France, Brazil and other countries, have now published a draft Universal Declaration of Human Responsibilities.

There is nonetheless a legitimate argument which says that the Western emphasis on individual rights can be socially destructive and neglects the claims of society and community.

By affirming an individual

"right," one makes a claim on society that is dissociated from responsibility.

We say: You must grant me my pursuit of happiness. However, my pursuit of happiness may prove to be at your expense. My freedom of enterprise may ruin you.

The conventional response in

the West is that the rights of one should stop when they infringe the rights of another. But this reflects a Western, adversarial conception of justice. In practice, it usually means that if you infringe my rights I'll sue you.

People have a responsibility "to develop their talents through diligent endeavor," it says. "They should have equal access to education and meaningful work. All property and wealth must be used responsibly in accordance with justice and for the advancement of the human race ...

"Economic and political power must not be handled as an instrument of domination, but in the service of economic justice and of the social order."

The most significant aspect

of this Declaration of Human

Responsibilities, in today's

Western intellectual climate,

is its unqualified affirmation

of the existence of right and wrong.

"No person, no group or

organization, no state, no army

or police stands above good and evil; all are subject to ethical standards.

Everyone has a responsibility

to promote good and to avoid evil in all things."

That takes this declaration

out of the realm of platitudes.

It connects it to the assumption

fundamental of the United Nations itself, as

well as to international law and

the concept of human rights.

That is indeed a "natural"

law which is connected to the

nature of man, and that we owe it respect.

That also makes it a controver-

sious document. It will be

important to see what happens

to it at the United Nations.

International Herald Tribune.

Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1898: U.S. in Cuba

MADRID — An article written by Senator Castellar on President McKinley's Message to Congress has excited much comment. He asserts that the intervention of the United States in Cuba would be a crime analogous to the partition of Poland. Such intervention would oblige the United States to equip a formidable fleet, to increase considerably their budget and to create an enormous army. They would end by alienating the whole of Latin America, which ought not to tolerate the encroachments of North America.

These countries — such as

South Africa in the southern

region — should receive special

attention in order to ensure that

they become dynamic locomotives

for growth in their respective

OPINION/LETTERS

## How to Pull the Blinds On Pols, Polls, Peepers

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Your right to privacy has been stripped away. You cannot walk into your bank, or apply for a job or access your personal computer without undergoing the scrutiny of strangers.

You cannot use a credit card to buy clothes to cover your body without baring your soul. Big Brother is watching as never before in America.

Encouraged by an act of Congress, Texas and California now demand thumbprints of applicants for drivers' licenses — treating all drivers as potential criminals.

In the much applauded pursuit of "deadbeat dads," the feds now demand that all employees inform the government of every new hire, thereby building a database of who is working for whom that would be the envy of the KGB.

Although it makes it easier to zip through tolls at bridges and highways, electric eyes reading license plates help snoops everywhere follow the movements of each driver and passenger.

Hooked on easy borrowing, consumers turn to plastic for their purchases, making records and sending electronic signals to telemarketers who track them down at home.

Stimulated by this demographic zeroing-in, Internet predators monitor your browsing, detect your interests, measure your purchases and even observe your expressed ideas.

Nor are Big Brothers limited to government and commerce. Your friends and neighbors, the Nosy Parkers, secretly tape regular calls you make to them and listen in to cellular calls to third parties, enhancing the video surveillance of public streets by government and of private driveways by security agencies.

Enough. Fear of crime and terrorism has caused us Americans to let down our guard against excessive intrusion into the lives of the law-abiding. The ease of minor borrowing and the transformation of shopping into recreation have addicted us to credit cards. Taken together, the fear and the ease make a map of our lives available to cops, crazies and con men alike.

(Here comes the "to be sure" graph.) Crime is real; some court-ordered taps of Mafois and surveillance cameras of high-violence playgrounds are justifiable. So are random drug and alcohol tests of nuclear-response teams. The Securities and Exchange Commission should monitor insider stock trades, and no sensible passenger minds the frisking at airports.

But doesn't this creeping confluence of government snooping, commercial tracking and cultural tolerance of eavesdropping threaten each individual American's personal freedom? And isn't it time to reverse that terrible trend toward national nakedness before it replaces privacy as an American value?

Here's how to snatch your identity back from the intruders:

1. Sign as little as possible. Warranty postcards are for suckers (your sales receipt is your guarantee), and sweepstakes are devices to show your guiltiness to purchasers of your address.

2. Write your local legislator demanding that a Privacy Impact Statement be required before passage of any new law, and call on your local U.S. president to convene a White House Conference on Privacy, thereby demonstrating the sleeping issue's nonpartisan political clout.

3. Use snail mail, which is harder to intercept than e-mail.

And resist mighty requests for your Social Security retirement insurance number. If you're a lawyer, take the state to court over drivers' fingerprinting.

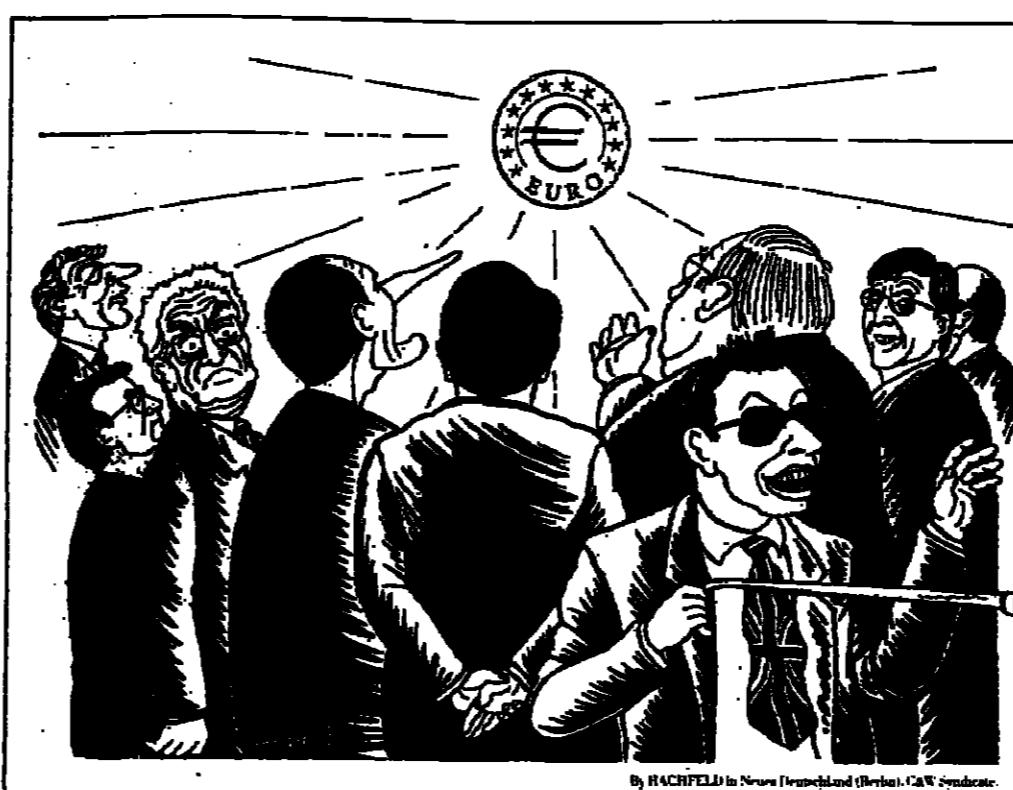
When a telemarketer calls, shout an imprecation and hang up. Get your kids to show you how to "disable a cookie" and download free software that lets you surf the Web in anonymity.

4. Persuade a foundation to issue a quarterly "Intrusion Index," measuring with scholarly authority the degree to which your privacy is being violated by pols, polls and peepers.

Above all —

5. Pay cash. It costs less than borrowing and keeps you in control of your own records. Remember: Cash is the enemy of the intruders. Use it to buy back your freedom.

*The New York Times.*



By HIRSCHFELD In Newsweekland (Berlin), C.W. Syndicate

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### About America

*Regarding "Americans and the World" (Editorial, Jan. 5):*

Given the fact that Americans have their roots in other lands, it is not surprising to discover in opinion surveys that Americans expect their country to be internationally involved.

I welcome the enlightened self-interest of Americans that is revealed in the surveys discussed in the editorial. Not only are such self-interested attitudes likely to endure, but in Americans' case their self-interest — in economic well-being, control of global warming, AIDS prevention and so on — coincides with the international interest.

A. BOLAJI AKINYEMI  
Cambridge, England

*Regarding "Life, Not Politics, Matters in America" (Opinion, Jan. 7) by James K. Glassman:*

Mr. Glassman gleefully informs us that Americans don't care about the news; that a council seat in Washington was won with a voter turnout of only 7 percent, and that Americans are not much interested in what their government is doing.

What about people's right in a democracy to information so they can choose their leaders and repre-

sentatives? A government of the uninformed and indifferent will soon perish.

VICTOR N. OSCODAR  
Anglet, France

*Regarding "Cinéma Vérité in Europe: Rejecting U.S. Culture" (Opinion, Dec. 16) by Richard Pells:*

It is likely that Mr. Pells misunderstands why his Polish students will not go see films by Steven Spielberg.

The European students of my acquaintance are not inclined to buy into the simplistic picture he paints of a Europe forced to choose between American values and a murky, frightening alternative.

The point of calling Mr. Spielberg a hack is to distinguish him from many other products of American culture (Faulkner, Coltrane, Woody Allen). Rejecting Mr. Spielberg is not rejecting American culture, and rejecting a version of capitalism that makes no room for social justice is not a retreat toward Soviet-style communism.

MARK LOVAS  
Bratislava, Slovakia

*Comparing Atrocities*

*Regarding "Nanking's Leg-*

*acy" (Letters to the Editor, Dec. 17):*

In what is perhaps a landable attempt to declare that underneath the skin all humans are basically the same (i.e., equally brutal and racist), one of the letter writers compares the World War II ravages of the Japanese and German armies to the massacre at My Lai.

Widespread references to "gooks" notwithstanding, the revelation that several hundred Vietnamese villagers had been killed in one day by U.S. soldiers immediately brought about an uproar in American society.

The debate culminates with an older woman raising a slice of pizza to Gorby and offering him the ultimate praise: "Because of him, we have things like Pizza Hut."

Something is also said about the crust, but then I was too angry to pay much attention. Instead, I was vowing never again to enter a Pizza Hut.

Why? I mean, why be angry at Pizza Hut and not at Mr. Gorbachev? This is where "The Magic Christian" comes in. It acknowledges that most people will do almost anything for money.

In comparison, the few attempts in the past 60 years to simply present the Japanese nation with a straightforward account of its army's atrocities in the slaughter of 300,000 civilians at Nanking have been met with wholesale resistance.

Another writer suggests that because they produced roughly the same number of dead, the rape of Nanking was no less brutal than the atom bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The writer overlooks a fundamental difference: The atom bombs did not appear out of the blue but after years of grueling fighting and atrocities committed by Japan's army.

ERIK SVANE  
Paris

### BOOKS

#### THE DEVIL'S CHIMNEY

By Anne Landsman. 292 pages. \$24. Soho.

Reviewed by Kelly Murphy Mason

THIS story has been called grotesque; Flannery O'Connor once said of her work, "but I prefer to call it literal." The narrator of Anne Landsman's first novel, "The Devil's Chimney," would defend her story along similar lines.

Certainly, the south that Connie knows is just as deep and dark as O'Connor's. But it lies in another continent — in the Outshoorn of South Africa — and Connie is an admitted, unapologetic drunk. In her gin-soaked imagination, caverns, dogs, ostriches, neighbors and natives become jumbled in words both English and Afrikaans. Only when she is sufficiently anesthetized can Connie bear to face a semblance of the truth of her present condition.

That truth is far from pleasant. Connie and her brutish husband work for the South African Tourist Board, overseeing the dog kennel adjacent to the Caves, an elaborate subterranean village that draws Afrikaner families to its depths. Connie and Jack are childless, though theirs was a shotgun wedding. The baby was stillborn, most likely due to fetal alcohol exposure; Jack will only tell Connie that he buried it in the backyard, besides two dead dogs.

The surviving dogs are Connie's greatest comfort, apart from the drink: "The dogs love me no matter what," Connie says. "That's what I say to Jack when he goes on about my drinking. As if he should talk. I'd like to see him try to sit down at the table without the brandy bottle next to him. And everybody else here. They all like a drop, especially in the evenings. You never know what goes on inside people's houses."

Unfortunately, the neighbors know all too well what goes on in Connie's

house, because in their stupors she and her husband have lost all sense of decorum. Yet Connie is as embarrassed for the Afrikaners as they are for her. She views them as a prurient, censorious lot, and her case against them is fairly credible.

So it seems inevitable that Connie would fixate on a foreign figure from the past: Miss Beatrice, the long-dead wife of an English lout. While the couple are footnotes in the sad history of the Outshoorn, Connie is able — from a few threadbare mementos in a local museum — to spin a fantastic yarn running parallel to her own life.

Like Connie, Miss Beatrice inhabits a loveless and violent marriage. She and Mr. Henry live on a sizable and isolated ostrich farm that her family purchased after his gambling debts drove the two from England. Mr. Henry does not find his fortune in South Africa, but Miss Beatrice tries to make a go of the place herself.

Her neighbor and erstwhile lover, Mr. Jacob, schools her in the trade, but profit motive alone cannot explain her devotion to these birds. She begins to believe the native mythology explaining how ostriches became fierce and vulnerable in equal measure, why it is they can fight but not fly.

This sense of entrapment pervades "The Devil's Chimney," which takes its title from the tag of a dead-end formation in the Caves.

Posing the central question of Landsman's novel, Connie asks, "How do you go on when bad nuns to terrible?" At the bottom of her cup, Connie becomes a barroom Scheherazade, telling the thinly veiled story of Miss Beatrice to anyone who will listen (and even to her deaf sister Gerta, who obviously cannot). Through her story, Connie tries to confront demons that are personal as well as collective: the ongoing terror of domestic violence, the human costs of colonization, and the dim prospect of survival.

"Here there is always something to poison, or shoot, or chase," Connie says. "Sometimes I hear screaming in the night and I don't know where it's coming from, whether it's animal or human, European or non-European."

Occasionally, the screams are caused by her delirium tremens. Connie's inability to draw fundamental distinctions between real and imagined horrors makes her narrative as bleak and relentless as any late-night drunksologue. Because Connie cannot communicate the scope of the suffering inflicted on the natives — or even on September and Nossa, the retainers she imagined for Miss Beatrice — she relates the plight of the ostriches in strangely sobering detail.

Any postcolonial dolt (and I count myself as one) can immediately decode the metaphor of ostriches being plucked to death. It is considerably more challenging to decipher the significance of either Connie's or Miss Beatrice's individual experiences.

A SOUTH African expatriate writing in English, Landsman provides her readers with a glossary of Afrikaans and Xhosa terms, but the one that needs no translation: apartheid — never appears in this novel. Presumably, Landsman means to suggest the endless, often nameless varieties of victimization in a place where systematic cruelties no longer bear mention. She succeeds.

But the indiscriminate surrealism of "The Devil's Chimney" has a numbing effect on the reader, who may find Connie's conflation of the grotesque and literal too heady a brew, the sort that spawns lasting despair.

Kelly Murphy Mason teaches in the English Department at George Washington University and is working on a collection of stories. She wrote this for *The Washington Post*.

### BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

INDIVIDUAL competitions are so unpopular that they are hardly ever scheduled in tournaments. It is another matter, however, when money is at stake. The first Omar Sharif Individual was a considerable success in 1990, and the second is already sure to do at least as well. It will be played Feb. 22-27 at the Hilton Grand Hotel in Atlantic City, and Dr. Zivago himself will be among the participants coming from far and wide. There will be a prize fund of \$200,000, of which \$40,000 will go to the winner.

An individual has two advantages. There is no sponsorship of partners or teams

by wealthy players, and there are no complicated systems in use. It appeals to many experts who usually stay away from tournaments, preferring money games in clubs.

A recent such game at the Regency Club in Manhattan included three players who are involved in the Sharif Individual. Siting North and South were Jeff Westheimer and Boris Koytchou, who played on the first occasion and are likely to play again, and West was Tamara Hirsch, the organizer of the tournament.

A brisk auction led to six spades ace and conceded a spade to West, that player was endplayed.

As it happened, he had to lead a club into the ace-queen, but if he had still held a

diamond, playing that suit might have conceded a ruff and stuff.

But six hearts is very slightly better because, as the actual play showed, South may be able to avoid the club finesse. Koytchou, who in his youth represented both France and the United States internationally, won the opening spade lead with the king and ruffed a diamond. He then drew trumps ending in dummy, threw a spade on the diamond ace and ruffed a diamond.

When he then led to the spade ace and conceded a spade to West, that player was endplayed.

As it happened, he had to lead a club into the ace-queen, but if he had still held a

North (D)  
♦ A K 4 2  
♦ A Q 7 2  
♦ A 8 4  
♦ 8 3  
WEST  
♦ J 9 6  
♦ 6 5  
♦ 6 3  
♦ 6 1 2  
♦ K J 9 5 2  
EAST  
♦ Q 5  
♦ 4 Q 3  
♦ 4 Q 2  
♦ K Q 10 9 8 5  
SOUTH  
♦ 10 9 8 7 3  
♦ K J 10 8 5  
♦ 9  
♦ A Q 10  
North and South were vulnerable.  
The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass  
4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

## Gorbachev Pizza Hut Ad: Unappetizing and Cruel

By Richard Cohen

WASHINGTON — Back in 1959, Terry Southern published a darkly comic novel called "The Magic Christian," one of whose premises was that people who more than any other created the post-Cold War world could do anything for money.

I recall one scene in which the protagonist, Guy Grand, uses a \$500 bill to induce a hot dog

### MEANWHILE

vendor to run alongside a train as it pulls out of a station. Here was a man acting like a greyhound chasing the mechanical rabbit at a dog track.

Pardon me, but that image — a bunch of money being used to make a fool of someone — is precisely what came to mind when, the other night, I happened on the new Pizza Hut TV commercial starring Mikhail Gorbachev. I felt sorry for Gorby and angry at Pizza Hut. One looked like a fool but the other looked cruel.

The commercial goes something like this: Mr. Gorbachev comes to the (actual) Moscow Pizza Hut with his little (actual) granddaughter and takes a table. He is noticed by the other patrons.

"Because of him, we have economic confusion," an older man growls.

Not so, says another patron, a younger and much better-looking man: "Because of him, we have opportunity."

The debate culminates with an older woman raising a slice of pizza to Gorby and offering him the ultimate praise: "Because of him, we have things like Pizza Hut."

Something is also said about the crust, but then I was too angry to pay much attention. Instead, I was vowing never again to enter a Pizza Hut.

Why? I mean, why be angry at Pizza Hut and not at Mr. Gorbachev? This is where "The Magic Christian" comes in. It acknowledges that most people will do almost anything for money.

In Gorby's case, he confessed he did the commercial for the money — a reported \$1 million — which he desperately needed to fund the research institute that bears his name. In other words, he was hard up.

But what was Pizza Hut's reason? There can be but one: It is trying to sell even more pizza. And in furtherance of that noble, his

topic cause, it made Mr. Gorbachev an offer he could not refuse.

It also, inadvertently or not, showed that even a historic figure could be corrupted, that the man who more than any other created the post-Cold War world could do anything for money.

I recall one scene in which the protagonist, Guy Grand, uses a \$500 bill to induce a hot dog

vendor to run alongside a train as it pulls out of a station. Here was a man acting like a greyhound chasing the mechanical rabbit at a dog track.

Pardon me, but that image — a bunch of money being used to make a fool of someone — is precisely what came to mind when, the other night, I happened on the new Pizza Hut TV commercial starring Mikhail Gorbachev. I felt sorry for Gorby and angry at Pizza Hut. One looked like a fool but the other looked cruel.

The commercial goes something like this: Mr. Gorbachev comes to the (actual) Moscow Pizza Hut with his little (actual) granddaughter and takes a table. He is noticed by the other patrons

## DINING A Bistro That Is A Bargain Warm Comfort In Cold Weather

By Patricia Wells  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS — Paris diners owe a fine debt of gratitude to chef Jean-Pierre Vigato. Not only has he wooed us for years with his steady, personalized form of modern cooking at his Michelin two-star restaurant Apicus, but he has influenced a good number of fine, young chefs.

The newest is Francis Leveque, who for the past few months has been playing to a packed dining room at the small bistro-style restaurant Dame Jeanne, not far from the Bastille. Here, in a colorful, southern-inspired decor of bold ochers and sunburst reds, scarlet linen napkins and pristine white china, he offers a model form of updated bistro fare at rock-bottom prices.

There's a deluge of "bargain" restaurants in Paris today. But weeding out those worth trying once from those worth adding to your permanent address book is another matter.

Dame Jeanne's current menu offers some soothing, cold-weather favorites, such as falling-off-the-bone braised lamb shanks, known as *sousis d'agneau* or *haut de gigot*. Or, try the well-seasoned, original *poule au vinaigre*, veal breast that had been stuffed with herbs, rolled and roasted to perfection. Served in thick slices and bathed in an even-tempered sauce, the steaming veal was surrounded by a pool of fine mashed potatoes.

For starters, there's a pretty as well as delicious terrine of tender beef cheeks (they sound better in French, as *joues de boeuf*) and verdant leeks. The terrine is cut in a thick slice, drizzled with a properly vinegary dressing, and served with a small, refreshing salad of *mesclun*, fresh mixed greens. Leveque's starchy risotto — this one flavored with assorted wild mushrooms — was distinctly French and thoroughly delicious. Rather than the creamy, al dente mass of the Italian version, this risotto was thinner, flavored with plenty of cooking juices, and no less appealing.

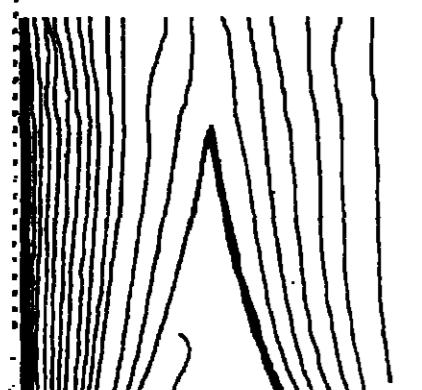
### JUST A SLIGHT DOWNSIDE

Alas, service in the two small dining rooms is typical of the laid-back Bastille neighborhood. No one there ever seems to be in a hurry. Even wine doesn't come until your first course is on the table. And since Leveque is alone in the kitchen, the wait can seem interminable.

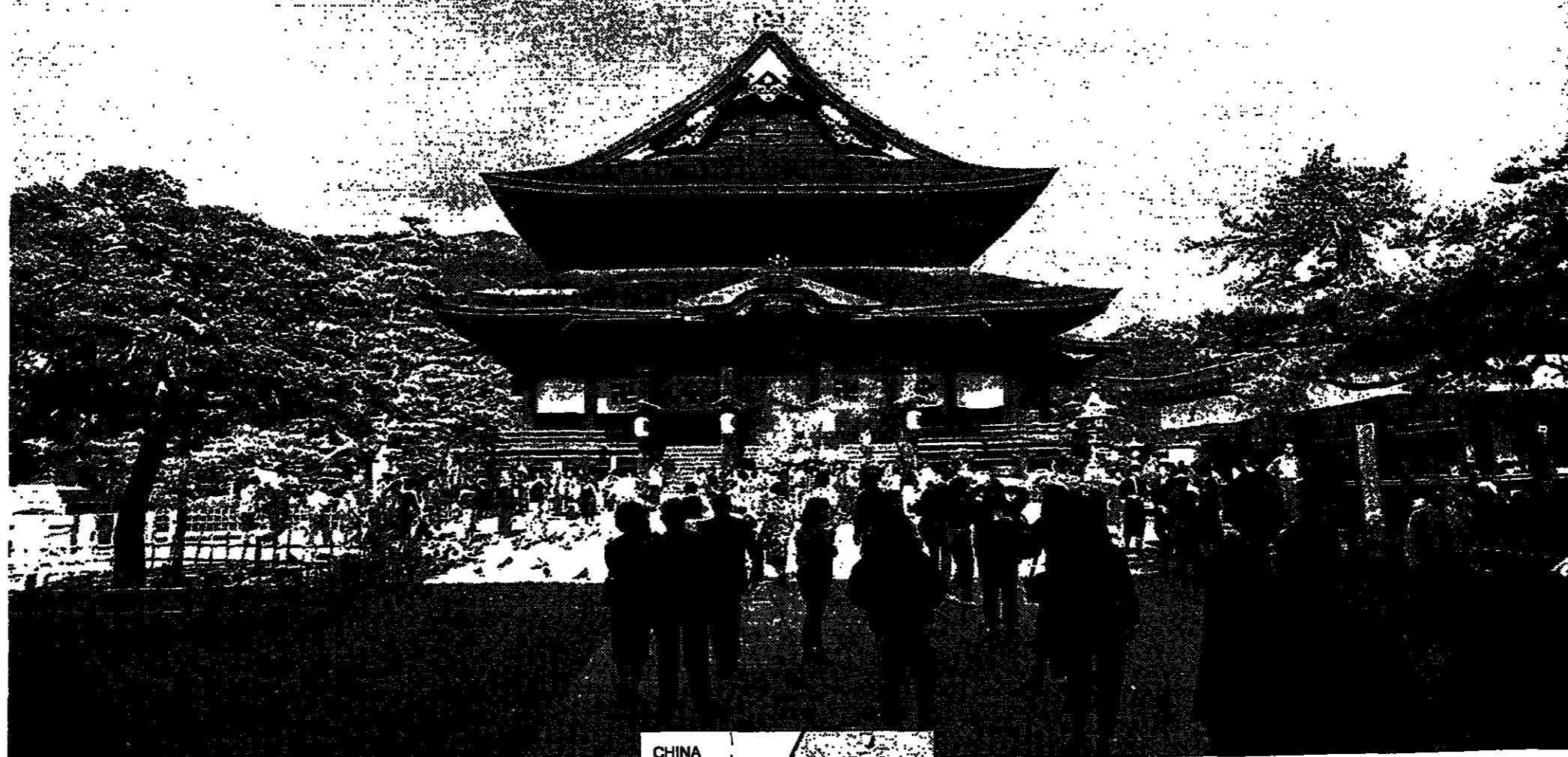
When the wine does arrive, it can be delicious. By all means sample the bargain-priced 120-franc (\$20) bottle of 1995 Beaujolais Juliénas Cotes du Bessy, from the winemaker Paul Spay.

Domaine de la Cave Lamartine. To my palate, it is an ideal rendering of a fine Beaujolais: not overtly fruity, but fun and vigorous, and just serious enough to inhibit you from dancing out the door.

Dame Jeanne, 60 Rue de Charonne, Paris 11; tel: 01-47-00-37-40; fax: 01-47-00-37-45. Closed Saturday lunch and all day Sunday. Credit card: Visa, MasterCard. Menus at 110, 128 and 168 francs, including service but not wine.



## Nagano: Go for the Games or Just for Luck Amid the Sports and Spas, a Temple With a Mysterious, Unseen Buddha



Zenkoji Temple houses a Buddha that has not been seen for 305 years.

By Nicholas D. Kristof  
New York Times Service

**N**AGANO, Japan — When athletes and spectators pour, as they soon will, into the city of Nagano, the host of the Olympic Winter Games, they will encounter snowy mountain ranges, a live volcano and the chance to experience death and rebirth — symbolically — in one of Japan's greatest Buddhist temples. The temple is supposed to bring a lifetime of good luck, and its underground vault is the only cultural site in Japan that my children count as a rival in significance to Tokyo Disneyland.

Visitors to Nagano will see all this and more, but none of them, not even the Japanese Emperor himself, will be allowed a glimpse of Nagano's greatest prize. That is a gilded bronze statue of Buddha with two attendants, said to have arrived in Japan in 552 from Korea as part of the first mission to carry Buddhism to Japan. It is therefore one of the oldest Buddhist statues in Japan, and, according to legend, is invested with miraculous powers — one of which is to blind anyone who lays eyes on it. That explains why it has been kept hidden away, presumably unseen for the last 305 years.

**A MYSTICAL PLACE** The temple where the statue is housed, Zenkoji, attracts pilgrims from all over Japan. One of the country's great tourist sites it underscores Nagano's role as a special kind of Olympic city: not just a ski resort, but also an ancient and mystical spot with attractions that go far beyond the Olympic competition.

Still, when the Games open on Feb. 7, they will put Nagano on the global map. More important, the Japanese government has invested — probably foolishly, given the staggering cost — in a new bullet train that has made the area far more accessible. Particularly for visitors on the main Tokyo-to-Kyoto circuit, Nagano offers a refreshing detour into the heart of the country and a glimpse into the nation's soul. The Olympics will perhaps not be the best time to explore the city, for it will be crowded and traffic will be a snarl, but Nagano will be there before and after the Games — and as a result of the preparations, there are more English signs than ever. Americans will find it easier to make their way into the right dressing room for the public baths.

Nagano Prefecture is a sprawling, mountainous region, with about 2.1 million inhabitants. Famed for its apples, delicious and crunchy and sometimes the size of soccer balls, Nagano is a playground of ski resorts and hot springs.

When friends were visiting in November, my wife and I took them and our herd of children — three of ours, two of theirs — on a day trip to Nagano, for it offers a flavor of traditional Japan in a kid-friendly package. We began our visit in the prefectural capital, also named Nagano, a city of 360,000 with its share of glass-and-steel office towers. Yet somehow Nagano City manages to preserve the aura of a country town, perhaps because of the mountains that surround and humble it, or perhaps because the refreshing chill in the air when one steps off the train from Tokyo.

After emerging from the train station, it is a one-mile walk to Zenkoji, the temple that is home to the miraculous statue. The avenue is lined with shops offering Nagano apples and other souvenirs, and it bustles with pilgrims from all over Japan, for legend has it that a visit to Zenkoji will bring salvation.

Zenkoji is said to have been built in the seventh century, but it has burned down many times. The current structure, a massive hall that is one of the biggest wooden buildings in Japan, dates from 1707. Dark brown and edged with gold, it looms over the neighborhood and is approached through two huge gates that lend a solemnity to the entire area.

Yet inside the gates, the atmosphere

is a bit like a carnival. Thousands of pigeons bustle about, and a grandmother tries to show a suspicious toddler how to feed the birds. He looks horrified as the pigeons whir around him, and when one lands on his shoulder he begins to wail. Other visitors surround a huge cauldron from which smoke billows, waving the smoke into their faces. The smoke is supposed to be good luck, so the kids in our group frantically waved some into their faces. I tried to accept this secondary smoke as spiritual.

The interior of Zenkoji is dim and crowded, and it takes a moment to adjust to the darkness. Obinzu-san, a life-size gold-painted wooden statue of a disciple of Buddha, sits in a lotus position near the entrance, and a stream of visitors reaches out to touch his hand, ear or face for good luck. Indeed, such groping has gradually worn away poor Obinzu-san's face, but still he presides over the multitude with as much dignity as a faceless sculpture can muster.

The real adventure begins in the back of the main hall. It involves going down stairs into the basement and stumbling along a pitch-black pathway while trying to touch a "key of paradise" that is hidden in the wall and is said to bring salvation to those who touch it. The pathway is not just dark, it is absolutely black — I literally could not see my hand an inch in front of my eyes — so we held on to one another as the children advised us loudly and nervously that they weren't the least bit scared. We reentered Gregory, 5, and Geoffrey, 3, that if they just kept going a bit farther, they would reach the "key of paradise" and win a lifetime of good luck. I gave them the crucial hint that the key is on the right-hand side, about waist-high. With that they easily found it, shrieked exultantly, and rubbed vigorously.

A temple official explained that the "key of paradise" is directly below the famous statue that has been hidden for the last three centuries. The darkness represents your death, allowing you to be reborn as a new person.

**R**EADY for an earthly meal upon emerging, we found the area around Zenkoji teeming with restaurants featuring one of Nagano's best-known specialties, soba noodles. Soba, made of buckwheat, is one of my favorite Japanese foods; it is also among the cheapest. A basic *zaru soba* (cold noodle dipped in sauce) is refreshing and costs only about \$5; *tororo soba* (or cold noodle served in broth and accompanied by a thick sauce of grated yam) is just a dollar or two more.

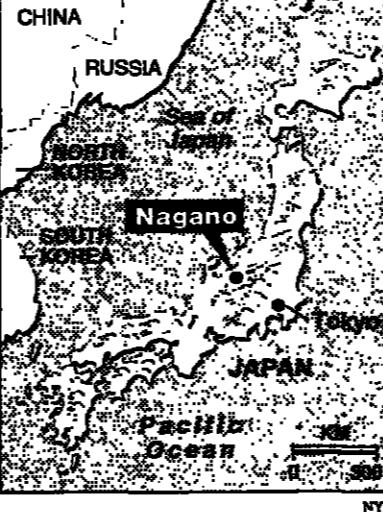
The place to stay in Nagano is not a Western hotel but a Japanese inn, ideally one of those clustered around hot springs in the less populated parts of the prefecture. One of the most famous springs is Jigokudani, or Hell Valley. Another is Sei Onsen, where the spring is inside a natural cave. I have been planning for a couple of years to go to Sei Onsen, but

In a self-lacerating plaque at the entrance, the local authorities have written: "The historical remains of the Matsushiro Headquarters call attention to the Japanese invasion of other Asian countries, as seen in World War II and the colonization of Korea. The remains forever remind us of the sins we committed during the war period."



Karen Kasma for The New York Times

**Museum at the Imperial Army's World War II tunnels at Matsushiro.**



By Stephanie Strom  
New York Times Service

**N**AGANO, Japan — Getting around Nagano, Japan, using anything other than feet these days takes about twice as much time as normal — at least. To be sure, congestion is nothing new to Nagano, the funnel through which most weekend skiers pass on their way to the Japan Alps, the breathtakingly beautiful mountains that will be home to the 1998 Olympic Winter Games Feb. 7-22.

But the current congestion, caused by lumbering tractors and tottering cranes, is a sign that — unlike Atlanta — Nagano and the five outlying villages where the events will take place will be prepared for the thousands of athletes, coaches and Olympic officials and more than a million spectators. This, after all, is Japan, where repartee schedule — and keep — appointments at specific times, not in half-day increments.

Apart from Zenkoji, the most interesting site in the prefecture also is underground, but it conjures up grim memories for Japanese and so does not get the attention it should. It is the Matsushiro Headquarters network of tunnels that the Imperial Army built in the waning months of World War II as a refuge for the emperor, the army and the government. The plan was to move the country's leaders to a safe haven underneath a mountain, where the government could continue to operate.

### BIG ENOUGH TO DRIVE IN

The tunnels are big enough to drive a car through, and they extend for around seven miles through hard rock. But nuclear weapons would have infected even these tunnels with deadly radioactivity, and the blasting finally stopped on Aug. 15, 1945, the day of Japan's surrender. The caves were 75 percent complete.

We entered through an old air shaft, descending a set of stairs carved in the rock, where a series of electric lights provides adequate but eerie illumination. Most of the tunnels are closed to visitors, but even so we could hike for the better part of a mile down a series of shafts.

The Imperial Army forced thousands of Korean laborers and nearby Japanese residents to build the tunnels, and 300 to 1,000 people died in the process. Most of the dead were Koreans who died in cave-ins or explosions or else succumbed to malnutrition, disease or suicide. Others were shot for trying to escape or for protesting the brutal around-the-clock working conditions.

In a self-lacerating plaque at the entrance, the local authorities have written: "The historical remains of the Matsushiro Headquarters call attention to the Japanese invasion of other Asian countries, as seen in World War II and the colonization of Korea. The remains forever remind us of the sins we committed during the war period."

### CULTURAL EVENTS

Away from the ski trails and skating rinks, visitors will find numerous cultural events. The Tanaka Honke Museum, the home of a wealthy family during the 18th century, will have an exhibit of Hina dolls from Feb. 4 through April. Hina dolls, which represent the emperor and empress and their attendants attired in traditional finery, usually about 8 inches tall, are taken out each year during a festival for girls in March. The museum offers one of the best glimpses of the opulence enjoyed by Japan's merchant elite, many of whom founded the multinational corporations of today. Tel: 248-8008; closed Tuesday, \$5. (The country and city codes for Nagano are 81-26.) At Nagano Station, catch the Nagano Dentetsu for Suzuka Station; from there, it is a 5-minute walk to the ground floor of the Nagano Station.

During the Games, the Nagano Prefectural Cultural Center, 284 Wakasato, Ohara, 226-0008, will showcase Japanese drama and music. At noon on Feb. 8, about 1,000 students of the Suzuki method will give a free concert. Kodo, a troupe of children who play traditional Japanese drums, will perform at the cultural center on Feb. 10 at 6:30 P.M. Tickets, \$23 to \$41, available through Ticket Pia on the ground floor of the Nagano Station.

On Feb. 12 at 6 P.M., the center will offer two traditional kyogen plays, or short comic dramas, as well as a kyogen on "Hamlet." Tickets (\$33) are available at the cultural center the day of the

show or in advance at 227-0011 or 227-3000.

An unusual version of kabuki will be staged at the Kitano Bungeiza, a local theater, at 1625 Nishigo-cho, 233-3111, from 2 to 4 P.M. on Feb. 14. Actors and musicians from Oshika, south of Nagano, will present a play performed in their hometown for the last 300 years. But unlike regular kabuki, in which all the parts are played by men, Oshika's kabuki includes women. The show is free, with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. It will be followed from 6 to 7 P.M. by a ningyo joruri, a traditional puppet show, from Iida, a city in Nagano prefecture.

The centerpiece of the Winter Games is the Olympic Stadium, in Nagano. The walls of the third floor of the stadium, designed by a team of architects at Rui Sekkei-Shitsu, an Osaka firm, represent the petals and calyx of a sakura, or cherry blossom, Japan's national flower.

According to Yuichi Saito, the lead architect, when his team visited Nagano, they were impressed by the power of the surrounding mountains. In ancient Japan, the mountain god was called Sa no Kami, and his seat was called Sa Kura, which offered the architects a convenient theme for the stadium that both reflected Japan as a whole and Nagano specifically.

About 24 miles (40 kilometers) from Nagano is Hakuba, where alpine and cross-country skiing events will be held and the best known of Japan's "cluster" ski areas. The name refers to both the town and the 9,619-foot (2,930-meter) mountain it sits on. According to lore, a group of farmers many years ago decided that a patch of snow that always survives the summer resembled a white horse, or hakuba.

**K**ARUIZAWA, where curling will be held, is a summer escape for the movers and shakers who run Japan Inc. It can be reached by Shinkansen from Tokyo on the same route that goes to Nagano, although not all trains stop there. The town lies at the foot of Mount Asama, one of many active volcanoes in Japan (it hasn't erupted since 1783). About an hour's bus ride from town one can walk in the lava fields.

Olympic spectators who need to warm their bones can get a free sample of sake just outside of Zenkoji's west gate at Yoshimoya, where one can witness the sake-making process as well. Yoshimoya, 237-5000, is near the Zenkoji-shita Station, the third stop from Nagano Station on the Nagano Dentetsu.

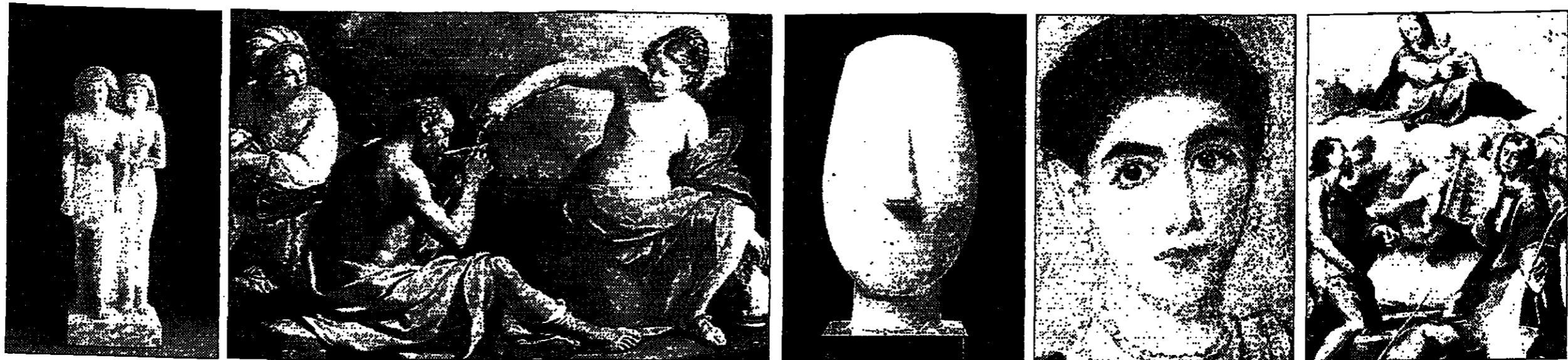
If you haven't booked for the Games, your chances of getting a Western-style room in one of the cookie-cutter hotels that have sprung up are slim to none.

Around Nagano, Japanese-style inns, called ryokans, are still reporting vacancies; if you don't mind sharing a steaming hot bath and sleeping on a futon, many of them give a view of Japan that's missed in a conventional hotel. In Hakuba, owners of inns have complained that bookings are actually lower than in the past because people think they have no chance of getting a room. The Hakuba ryokan association can be reached at (81-26) 72-2279.

**NOT SPRINGS** Nature has provided the time-honored complement to a day of skiing: the hot tub. Hot springs (onsen) dot the area, testament to the volcanic activity stoking far below. The Ryokan Sakaya at Nozawa Onsen, one of Japan's most famous onsen, has a *roten buro*, a bath exposed to the sky. Rooms at Sakaya, (0269) 85-3118, range from \$147.50 to \$203 a person, which includes two meals, plus 8 percent tax and a \$1.25 onsen tax.

The Kiryu Ryokan, (0269) 85-2020, is built around a pretty Japanese garden. Rooms: \$123 to \$203 a person, including two meals, plus taxes. Nozawa Onsen is about an hour from Nagano on the JR Iiyama line to Togari Nozawa Onsen Station.

for Luck  
Lucky Buddha



Treasures displayed in the Louvre include a double Egyptian statue, "Lot and His Daughters" by Guercino, a bust of a woman from about 2,500 B.C., a Fayum "mummy portrait," and a Madonna and saints by Anselmi.

## LEISURE

# Grand Louvre Gets Grander With New Egyptian Galleries

By Alan Riding  
New York Times Service

**P**ARIS — The inauguration of I.M. Pei's glass pyramid at the Louvre Museum in 1989 was such a watershed that it seemed hard to imagine that it marked only the first stage of a \$1.2 billion project to modernize the great palace of art. Still lay a task that was less visually spectacular than the pyramid, but no less important to the Louvre — refurbishing and expanding its galleries and reorganizing its immense collection. Now, more than eight years later (and 17 years after President François Mitterrand set in motion the transformation of the Louvre), the end is within sight.

In 1993, the Louvre absorbed the northern Richelieu Wing, home to the Finance Ministry since 1820, and gained 230,000 square feet (about 21,300 square meters) of space, including three covered (but naturally lighted) courtyards for large statuary. Also in 1993 came in-

auguration of the glitzy Carrousel du Louvre shopping mall, which leads to the museum's main reception area below the pyramid and is designed around another glass pyramid, this one inverted.

In 1997, the Grand Louvre project took several fresh strides toward completion, with installation of the Museum of Fashion and Textiles and the Museum of Decorative Arts, renovation of some galleries for Italian paintings and Roman antiquities and the opening of the Sully Wing — financed by the American philanthropists Mortimer and Theresa Sackler — for Oriental antiquities. Finally, on Dec. 21, President Jacques Chirac inaugurated a further 107,000 square feet of restored and renovated gallery space, most of it in the eastern Sully Wing.

It was this last expansion, though, that has generated special excitement because, among other things, it involved a new presentation of the Louvre's vast collection of Egyptian antiquities. Ever since Napoleon's occupation of Egypt, 1798 to 1801, the French have had a

love affair with the world of the pharaohs, fueled by the remarkable stone statues, stelae and tombs that now stand in the Louvre, removed from Egypt by 19th-century French archaeologists. (Imperial powers like France and Britain preferred to think they were protecting mankind's artistic heritage rather than looting.)

### 5,000 WORKS ON SHOW

Now with 60 percent more space for its Egyptian collection, the Louvre has increased the number of pieces on show in 30 newly restored rooms from 4,000 to 5,000 (of a total of 55,000), enabling it to boast the world's greatest display of Egyptian antiquities outside Cairo. On the first floor of the Sully Wing, the collection is presented thematically, covering everything from life along the Nile, farming and hunting, to writing, dwellings, temples and funerary rites. On the floor above, the display is chronological, from the end of prehistory

around 4000 B.C. to Cleopatra and the arrival of the Romans around 30 B.C. Here, the Louvre has opted for a theatrical mise-en-scène, using sphinxes, marble pillars and statues to re-create the mood of the great Egyptian temples.

In the southern Denon Wing of the museum, the Louvre has two series of new rooms devoted to later Egypt. One focuses on the funerary practices of Roman Egypt and includes painted shrouds, examples of the famous Fayum mummy portraits, several elaborate coffins and the mummified body of an unidentified man. In the other rooms, Coptic Egypt, which begins in the third century A.D. and continues through the Arab conquest

of the mid-seventh century, is represented by tapestries, writing and iconographic imagery. And, most dramatically, the monastic church at Baout, Egypt, has been reconstructed in the Louvre.

The new areas opened to the public also include freshly restored and newly occupied rooms for Greek, Etruscan and Roman antiquities. The pre-Hellenic gallery, now beautifully installed in Napoleon III's former stables, displays 300 works, one-third of them never shown to the public before, and covers the period from Cycladic art starting in 3,000 B.C. to Archaic art in the sixth century B.C. The Campana collection of Greek vases now has more space, plus new lighting and air-conditioning, in the Sully Wing.

And Roman precious metalwork benefits from a new display.

Finally, the Grande Galerie, the stunning 600-foot hall that borders the Seine, was reopened last month, dedicated largely to 15th-, 16th- and 17th-century Italian painting, including works by Fra Angelico, Piero della Francesca, Raphael, Leonardo and Caravaggio.

Still pending is restoration of 50,000 square feet of galleries, reconstruction of a walkway — the Passerelle Solferino — over the Seine from the Tuileries Gardens to the Musée d'Orsay and installation of a Louvre annex to a new Museum of Mankind, Arts and Civilizations that Chirac dreams of opening in the old Museum of Man at the Trocadero.

## ARTS GUIDE

### AUSTRIA

**VIENNA** Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel: (1) 535-24403, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To April 14: "Brueghel: Tradition and Fortschritt." Paintings by Peter Brueghel the Elder as well as paintings and works on paper by his two sons, Jan the Elder and Peter the Younger.

### BRITAIN

**EDINBURGH** National Gallery of Scotland, tel: (131) 332-2266, open daily. To Jan. 31: "Turner Watercolours." For more than 90 years, these 38 watercolors by the British painter have been displayed during the month of January exclusively at the request of the donor.

**LONDON** Victoria & Albert Museum, tel: (171) 538-8441, open daily. Continuing/ To March 29: "Colours of the Indies: Costumes and Textiles of Pakistan."

### FRANCE

**PARIS** Grand Palais, tel: 01-44-13-17, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/ To Jan. 26: "Georges de La Tour, 1593-1652." Musée d'Orsay, tel: 01-40-49-48, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 2: "Wilhem Hammerhoi." A selection of paintings by the Danish artist (1864-1916). Musée Marmottan, tel: 01-42-24-27, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 28: "Berthe Morisot." Works by the French Impressionist artist.

Petit Palais, tel: 01-42-65-12-73, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 15: "Marianne et Germania, 1789-1888. Un Siècle de Passions Franco-Allemandes." Paintings, drawings, sculptures, and musical and literary items document the history of Franco-German relations.

### GERMANY

**FRANKFURT** Schirn Kunsthalle, tel: (69) 299-882-0, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 1: "Between Heaven and Earth." Icons and illuminated manuscripts dating from the 14th to the 16th centuries on loan from state museums in Moscow.

### HONG KONG

Hong Kong Museum, tel: 2734-2167, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 1: "National Treasures: Gems of China's Cultural Relics." Bronze, jade, ivory, silver and gold objects, as well as lacquerware and stone carvings dating back to the Neolithic era.

### ISRAEL

**JERUSALEM** Israel Museum, tel: (2) 5708-811, open daily. Continuing/ To Jan. 31: "Propaganda and Vision: Soviet and Israeli Art, 1930-1965." Works created under Stalin are contrasted with Israeli works of the same period.

### ITALY

**ROME** Capitoline Museum, tel: (6) 6710-2071, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Jan. 20: "Henri Matisse: La Révélation m'est Venue de l'Orient." Documents the influence of Oriental art in Matisse's work.

### LUXEMBOURG

Casino Luxembourg, tel: 22-50-45, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/ To Feb. 1: "Affinités Électives: La Peinture Européenne en Dialogue." Brings together works by 50 European artists.

### NETHERLANDS

**AMSTERDAM** Rijksmuseum, tel: (20) 673-2121, open daily. Continuing/ To March

Das Verlorene Paradies." Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart. Jan. 11: "Expresionismo Tedesco: Arte e Sociedad, 1909-1923." Palazzo Grassi, Venice. Jan. 11: "Moments of Eternity: Egyptian Art from Private Collections." Musée Rath, Geneva. Jan. 11: "The Private Collection of Edgar Degas." Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Jan. 11: "Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks." Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington. Jan. 11: "Thomas Moran." National Gallery of Art, Washington. Jan. 12: "Prud'Hom, 1758-1823." Grand Palais, Paris.

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**ACROSS**  
1 Timeworn, as a joke  
16 Prince, perhaps  
17 Errors  
18 Beast of burden  
19 Resistance unit  
20 Country bumpkin  
21 Flood refugee  
22 Bnch-a-  
25 tar pits  
28 Yum-Yum lover in "The Mikado"  
32 Big Ten team  
34 Some radios  
35 Concern for Claudius

36 Lodge members  
37 It may be glossed over  
38 — Connor of "The Terminator"  
39 Drift  
40 Up, informally  
41 Little one  
42 Symbols of welcome  
43 Took off  
45 Stoic, perhaps  
47 Rusty on the diamond  
50 Substitute for the unlisted

51 Hoosier humorist  
52 Rich deporte  
53 "Giant" and "Cameron," e.g.  
54 Head for stud row?  
55 For goodness sake!  
56 Star Wars" princess  
57 Magnetic —  
58 Roman candle past  
59 Penn or Union: Abbr.  
60 Hawaiian island  
61 Leave one's mark on  
62 Brief description  
63 Abode of the dead, in Norse myth  
64 Many Mormons  
65 "No respect" for Rodney Dangerfield  
66 With 27 Down, old English character actor  
67 Start of an explanation  
68 Wilson and Harding, e.g.  
69 The Platters' "Mine"

70 Up  
71 Devil's Island escapes Rebeinot  
72 Right for the disabled  
73 It's neither here nor there  
74 Throw for —  
75 See 12-Down  
76 Going nowhere  
77 Menace  
78 Was audibly impressed  
79 Portrait  
80 Cannon product since 1937  
81 New York's Bridge  
82 Kind of soup, in the South  
83 Wear it in good health  
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86 "Viss' d' Toscá"  
87 Prolix with type  
88 were  
89 Latin grammar task, Abbr.  
90 to be, in old Home  
91 100 lbs

© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

**Solution to Puzzle of Jan. 8**  
JARS BACCO LAGGS  
ABEE PLAIN ALIA  
MADAMAS BUTTERFLY  
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## INTERNATIONAL

**Khatami: 'There Must First Be a Crack in This Wall of Mistrust'**

*Following are excerpts of the televised interview with the Iranian president, Mohammed Khatami, from a translation and transcript supplied by CNN.*

**Introductory Remarks:**

The American civilization is worthy of respect. When we appreciate the roots of this civilization, its significance becomes even more apparent.

The American civilization is founded upon the vision, thinking, and manners of the Puritans. Certainly, others such as adventurers, those searching for gold, and even sea pirates, also arrived in the U.S. But the American nation has never celebrated their arrival and never considered it to be the beginning of their civilization. The Puritans constituted a religious sect whose vision and characteristics, in addition to worshipping God, was in harmony with republicanism, democracy, and freedom.

Unfortunately, in the 16th, 17th, and even 18th centuries, there was a serious clash between religion and liberty. In my opinion, one of the biggest tragedies in human history is this confrontation between religion and liberty, which is to the detriment of religion, liberty, and the human beings who deserve to have both.

And as we see, even today Americans are a religious people. Therefore, the Anglo-American

approach to religion relies on the principle that religion and liberty are consistent and compatible. I believe that if humanity is looking for happiness, it should combine religious spirituality with the virtues of liberty.

In terms of the dialogue of civilizations, we intend to benefit from the achievements and ex-

**We sense an intellectual affinity with the essence of the American civilization.**

With our revolution, we are experiencing a new phase of reconstruction of civilization. We feel that what we seek is what the founders of the American civilization were also pursuing four centuries ago. This is why we sense an intellectual affinity with the essence of the American civilization.

**On U.S. Foreign Policy:**

Unfortunately, policies pursued by American politicians outside the United States over the past half a century since World War II are incompatible with the American civilization, which is founded on democracy, freedom and human dignity.

After the collapse of communism, there has been an attempt by certain circles to portray Islam as the new enemy, and regrettably they are targeting progressive Islam rather than certain repressive interpretations of Islam.

**On the U.S. Embassy hostage crisis:**

The events of those days must be viewed within the context of revolutionary fervor and the pressures to which the Iranian nation was subjected, causing it to seek a way to express its anxieties and concerns. Today we are in the period of stability, and fully adhere to all norms of conduct regulating relations between nations and governments.

**On dialogue with the U.S. government:**

The dialogue between civilizations and nations is different from political relations. In regard to political relations, we have to consider the factors that lead to the severance of relations. If some day another situation is to emerge, we must definitely consider the roots and relevant factors and try to eliminate them. There must first be a crack in this wall of mistrust to prepare for a change.

On Iran's alleged support of terrorism:

We believe in the holy Koran that says: slaying one innocent person is tantamount to the slaying of all humanity. How could such a religion, and those who claim to be its followers, get involved in the assassination of innocent individuals and the slaughter of innocent human beings. We categorically reject all these allegations.

**On Israel:**

I regret to say that the improper American policy of unbridled support for the aggressions of a racist terrorist regime does not serve U.S. interests, nor does it even serve that of the Jewish people. The Israeli intransigence in the course of the current peace process and its failure to honor its own undertakings has enraged even U.S. allies in the region. In my view, peace can come to the Middle East when all Palestinians, Jews and Muslims alike, can determine the future of the land. Meanwhile, we believe the United States should not risk the substantial prestige and credibility of the American people on supporting a racist regime that does not even have the backing of the Jewish people.

**On nuclear ambitions:**

We are not a nuclear power and do not intend to become one. We have accepted IAEA safeguards and our facilities are routinely inspected by that agency.

**Iranian Press Mostly Praises President's Address on TV**

*Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches*

TEHRAN — Most Iranian newspapers on Thursday endorsed President Mohammed Khatami's cautious offer of a dialogue with the American people, but warned that the United States had far to go before ties were restored.

The Iranian public came out more strongly in favor of building bridges with the United States — an offer Mr. Khatami made in his interview Wednesday with CNN.

Mr. Khatami is a "shrewd politician with the courage to create a logical dialogue with the outside world," Iran News, which reflects the views of the Foreign Ministry, said in an editorial.

"On the whole, Khatami proved he had nothing new to say on the issue of establishing relations with the United States," the paper said.

But it added that the United States must also make efforts to mend ties.

A hard-line Iranian newspaper, however, criticized Mr. Khatami for voicing regret in his television address to the American people over the 1979 hostage-taking at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

"That revolutionary action is today put on trial as an emotional act of an early revolutionary era," the daily Kayhan said in a commentary about Mr. Khatami's interview with CNN. "Why should our nation have to pay to please Western tastes?"

Mr. Khatami said he regretted how the incident months after the 1979 Islamic revolution in which militants stormed the embassy and kept 52 Americans hostage for 444 days, had hurt Americans' feelings. He said it was important to note that it occurred "in the heat of revolutionary fervor."

The Times said it was essential that real feelings of Iranians be conveyed to the American people, who can "exert pressure on their administration to cease plots" against Iran.

The conservative daily Resalar played down Mr. Khatami's conciliatory remarks and said the president had exposed "the U.S. politicians' crimes and injustices in the past 50 years."

Teheran radio, which along with state television carried the entire interview after it was aired by CNN, stressed Mr. Khatami's critical remarks about U.S. leaders in its news bulletins.

Many Iranians praised Mr. Khatami's address, while others said he should have detailed U.S. wrongdoing against Iran.

**IRAN: U.S. Ponders the Potential for Talks**

*Continued from Page 1*

The White House also said that Mr. Clinton's foreign policy advisers would examine the policy on relations with Iran in light of Mr. Khatami's remarks, Reuters reported.

The White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, asked whether the United States would consider lifting visa restrictions to allow cultural exchanges with Iran, said the rules would be reviewed. "In the aftermath of President Khatami's interview last night, that will be examined by the president's foreign policy advisers. It's too soon to speculate on what, if any, action may result."

A response to Mr. Khatami's speech drafted by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Samuel Berger, the national security adviser, included a call for the first talks since the overthrow of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi in 1979. Previous U.S. statements set conditions for such talks — that they be officially authorized and acknowledged in public — but did not propose that talks begin.

Three vital questions, all fiercely debated in recent weeks by specialists in and out of the administration, remained unanswered by the interview with the correspondent Christiane Amanpour.

Officials said they had no consensus yet on the extent of Mr. Khatami's struggle with the hard-line clerics who lead Iran, on who is winning the struggle or on what Mr. Khatami's motives may be for what nearly every analyst described as a remarkable overture.

Those who see a struggle with the religious leader Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei pointed to Mr. Khatami's



Tatyana Suskin, in a Jerusalem court Thursday, said: "I'm not sorry."

**POLICY: Turning Point in U.S.-Iran Ties?**

*Continued from Page 1*

ambassadors to contribute to a secret war on its neighbors?

But a year ago no one was even raising such a question. Then, many American and Middle East officials expected that Washington's investigation of the bombing would lead inexorably toward almost certain confrontation with Tehran, at a minimum provoking additional diplomatic sanctions and at most a military strike on Iran. Officials at the Pentagon went so far as to identify possible targets.

A lot has changed since then, and many officials in Washington and the Middle East no longer expect such a blunt confrontation.

Instead, private discussion in the American and Saudi capitals has shifted away from the question of how Iran might be punished to how the issue of past sins by its hard-liners might be manipulated to strengthen the hand of the moderates in Iran and erode the power of Ayatollah Khamenei and his radical backers.

The new focus, in short, is not so much on settling old scores over what may already have been done, but on ensuring that no Iranian-inspired terrorist occurs in the future.

A key intervening factor was the election in May of Mohammed Khatami as president: a moderate cleric who some American intelligence officials and Middle East diplomats have concluded is genuinely open to warmer relations with the West and likely to take a less provocative stance toward U.S. allies in the Gulf.

Among his reforms is the appoint-

ment of a new minister of intelligence, who could exercise some control over those whom Ayatollah Khamenei allegedly said in 1993 were to spearhead the anti-Western campaign.

"It's not the same as it was four months ago, when Iran was seen as the enemy," an official in the Middle East said. "The election was a turning point. It toned down the desire" of the Saudis to strike at Iran somehow.

The official added: "It's not that they are no longer seen as a threat. But there is a recognition of a genuine conflict taking place between the old guard and a more moderate faction, and it seems Khatami is prevailing."

Another factor is what U.S. law enforcement officials described as an extended lull in Washington's closely held inquiry into the Saudi Arabia bombing, which the officials ascribed to a lack of solid leads and a continuing Saudi reluctance to provide direct U.S. access to those imprisoned for involvement in the blast or to share key evidence.

When the families of the Americans who were killed or wounded were briefed on the inquiry last month, the FBI director, Louis Freeh, had little optimism to convey. "We did not report to them great progress," he said afterward. "We did not report to them the imminence of an indictment or charges. We said we were frustrated with certain aspects of the case."

There is abundant circumstantial evidence linking Iranian officials and sympathizers to the bombing, officials said.

Hani Abdel Rahim Sayegh was alleged by the Canadian authorities to have

been the driver of a surveillance car in the bombing. He told the FBI in early 1996 that an Iranian official had recruited him in 1995 to help track U.S. military operations in Saudi Arabia in preparation for possible terrorist attacks. But Mr. Sayegh has refused to elaborate, and the investigation has ground to a halt.

"It's very likely that we will never get to the bottom of this," a senior intelligence official said last week, saying he meant that Washington will probably never turn up the "smoking gun" evidence against the Iranians that would warrant a stiff U.S. response.

An approach favored by top Saudi officials is to persuade the new government of Iran to prove its bona fides by halting financial and material support to those who want to destabilize the kingdom.

The Middle East official said that would amount to a repudiation of the hard-line policies of the past, and send a signal to radicals throughout the region that Iran was no longer a safe haven.

In the affected area of Relizane, about



**DOWN AND OUT** — Firemen examining the wreckage of a high-voltage electric pylon Thursday in Saint-Omer-Cappelle. It was toppled by a tornado that ripped through six coastal towns in northern France.

Mr. Khatami intended his interview as a genuine overture to the United States or a wedge between it and its Western allies. Some officials said they suspected it to be a form of rhetorical judo, aimed at ending Iran's isolation and isolating the policy on Iran.

Mahmaz Afkhami, director of the Foundation for Iranian Studies, echoing some administration officials, said: "My own idea is that this is more in terms of giving a more rational, moderate image of Iran, to strengthen Iran's ties with other potential partners — in the Arab world, in Europe and in Asia."

Mindful of the disastrous results of secret efforts in the past, most notably the Iran-contra affair of the 1980s, the Clinton administration has insisted, as the State Department spokesman James Rubin put it Wednesday night, that "a dialogue between the United States and Iran

**Israeli Sentenced for Pig Poster**

*Anti-Muslim Drawing Gets Nationalist a 2-Year Jail Term*

*Reuters*

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court, recalling Nazi caricatures of Jews, sentenced an extreme-nationalist Jewish woman to two years in jail on Thursday for putting up posters in the West Bank depicting Islam's Prophet Mohammed as a pig.

"Everything I did was out of love for the land of Israel," said Tatyana Suskin, a 26-year-old Russian immigrant and supporter of the outlawed anti-Arab group Kach.

"I'm not sorry — what should I be sorry about," she said after the judge imposed a three-year sentence, one year of which was suspended. "My grandparents were killed by the Nazis. I think they're proud of me."

Miss Suskin's action in Hebron in June incensed the Muslim world and sparked Palestinian riots in the divided West Bank town, which is sacred to Muslim and Jews.

Last week, the Jerusalem District Court found her guilty of committing a racist act, trying to harm religious sensitivities, supporting a terrorist group, damaging public property and endangering

giving life to stoning an Arab car.

Judge Zvi Segel said "every citizen" of Israel should be aware of the dangers of offending religious sensitivities. "We must remember those Nazi caricatures," Judge Segel said, "which were full of hatred to the point of erasing the human identity of the people they depicted."

Miss Suskin, who said before the session that she was ready to go to jail for "freedom of speech," shot back angrily: "What kind of comparisons are you making? My drawings are Nazi? The Nazis took actions, these were simply drawings — so what?"

She put up the posters on 20 storefronts on the Palestinian-ruled side of Hebron on a Friday night in June. Prosecutors accused her of throwing a stone at an Arab car the next morning.

Pigs are considered unclean by both Judaism and Islam.

The court could have sentenced Miss Suskin to a maximum prison term of more than 20 years. But in determining the sentence Judge Segel said he had taken into consideration the fact that Miss Suskin was "not completely mentally well."

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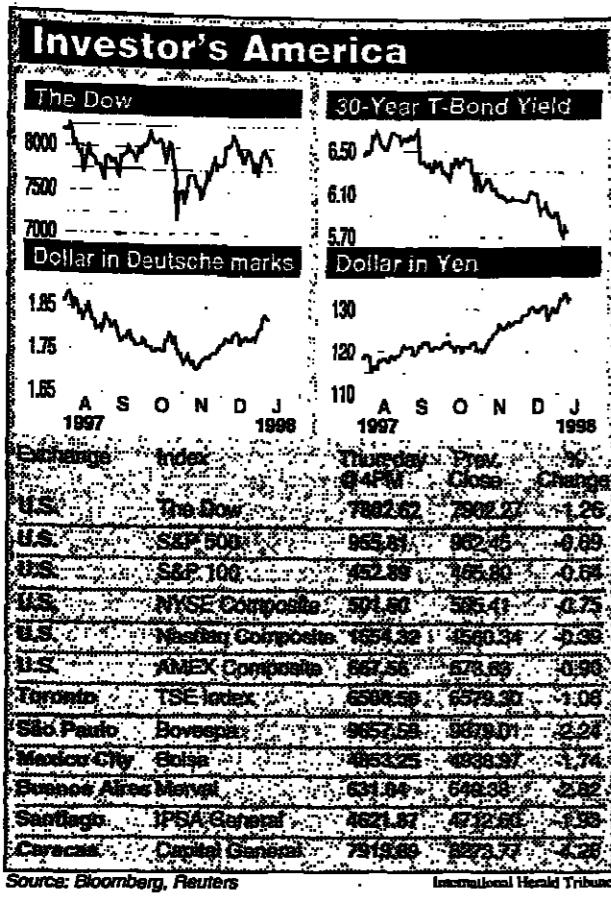
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## THE AMERICAS



# Dollar Rallies Stocks Slip on Fears About Overseas Profit On Doubt Yen Will Get Help

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**NEW YORK** — The dollar rebounded against the yen Thursday as concern faded that U.S. and Japanese officials were planning to join in selling the U.S. currency to curb its gains.

The dollar regained most of the three yen it lost Wednesday as traders' focus shifted back to Japan's flagging economy and trou-

bled financial system.

Tumbling currencies and stock markets across Asia also weighed on the yen.

"Pledges to cooperate on currency moves will be seen as half-hearted and unconvincing against the deepening financial market crisis," said Tim Fox, a treasury economist at Standard Chartered PLC in London. "With pressure on local Asian currencies intensifying, the yen gave up its gains."

At 4 P.M. the dollar was at 132.69 yen, up from 131.85 yen at the close Wednesday though down from the five-and-a-half-year high of 134.42 notched earlier in the day.

But the dollar was lower against most major European currencies as currency traders reacted to the decline in U.S. stocks.

The dollar fell to 1.8215 Deutsche marks, from 1.8258 DM. The U.S. currency also dipped to 6.0925 French francs from 6.1040 francs a day earlier, and to 1.4755 Swiss francs from 1.4765 francs.

But the pound stood at \$1.6258, compared with \$1.6258.

(Bloomberg, AFP)

pany profits are in question, valuations are extreme and the economic background is shaky, particularly in Asia," said Henry G. Van der Eb, president of Mathers & Co. in Bannockburn, Illinois, which oversees more than \$200 billion. "We're headed for the first down January in a while."

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 7,802.62 down 99.65 points. Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones by a 9-to-5 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

Broader market indicators also fell. The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index closed at 956.04, down

7.96 points, and the Nasdaq composite index finished at 1,555.55, down 6.15 points.

Indonesian stocks traded in New York declined following a drop of 12 percent in Indonesia's benchmark stock index to a four-year low.

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David Hogg/The Washington Post  
Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin of Russia

Reuters

MOSCOW — Russia's economy returned to growth last year, officials confirmed Thursday, after Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told his cabinet it should work to meet official economic growth forecasts of 2 percent in 1998.

Russia's gross domestic product grew 0.4 percent in 1997, its first rise since 1989, when it was part of the Soviet Union, the chief of the State Statistics Committee's GDP department said Thursday, quoting preliminary figures. GDP is the broadest measure of a country's economic health.

Mr. Chernomyrdin told a cabinet meeting that the Russian economy

expanded considerably in December and that the global market turmoil that spilled into Russia last year had been deftly handled by the government and central bank, news agencies reported.

Mr. Chernomyrdin said interest rates on Treasury bills, which soared to 45 percent last year, should be back to pre-crisis levels by April or May, the Interfax news agency reported.

Treasury bills are yielding about 30 percent in ruble terms, almost double last year's lows of near 17 percent.

Mr. Chernomyrdin said he saw a strong year ahead and highlighted the economy's performance in December, which was 1.2 percent stronger

than in December 1996. He told his cabinet it should work to achieve inflation this year of 5 percent to 8 percent as well as 2 percent growth, news agencies said.

But to keep fragile economic growth on track, the government will have to do a better job of collecting taxes than in 1997, when by some accounts it brought in just over half of its planned collection.

Chernomyrdin noted that tax collection is the main job of the cabinet in 1998, Interfax said. "By the end of January, he said, we should prepare a new draft of the tax code and send it for review to the State Duma."

Government reformers and market analysts see a new tax code, to replace

Russia's makeshift tax laws, as a core component of improving government finances.

Roland Nash, an economist at the Moscow investment bank MFK Renaissance, said 2 percent growth was optimistic.

"Russia's recovery depends quite significantly on replacing old capital and investments, and investment is directly affected by interest rates, which have been affected by the financial situation over the last couple of months," Mr. Nash said.

First Deputy Prime Minister Boris Nemtsov, in comments reported by Interfax on Wednesday, also said the government should work to improve industrial competition.

## Rolls-Royce Fans to Make Patriotic Bid for Firm

Reuters

LONDON — A group of Rolls-Royce and Bentley car enthusiasts prepared an audacious takeover bid on Thursday in an effort to stop the most famous name in British motoring from falling into foreign hands.

The Rolls-Royce Action Group, formed by a group of 10 wealthy car lovers, confirmed plans to mount a bid in a last-ditch effort to thwart foreign buyers. The engineering group Vickers PLC put the luxury carmaker up for sale in October.

"We want to stop it falling into foreign hands," said Michael Shrimpton, chairman of the action group, which aims to prevent giants like Germany's Bayerische Motoren Werke AG from swallowing the last and most illustrious British-owned car company.

BMW's German rivals Volks-

werk AG and Daimler-Benz AG are also believed to be interested in Rolls-Royce.

"There is tremendous concern among our members about the loss of a famous British company and loss of national prestige," Mr. Shrimpton said. "We are willing to talk to any British bidder. If BMW goes ahead and wins — will there still be a Rolls Royce?"

"We want to stop it falling into foreign hands," said Michael Shrimpton, chairman of the action

group, which is seeking to raise £680 million (\$1.1 billion) to finance its bid and future investment. This could raise the stakes in an already tough bidding race, with as many as seven buyers in the running.

As part of the effort to raise finances, the group is writing to 20,000 owners of Rolls-Royce cars and its sister model, Bentley, asking for help, as well as calling on financial institutions.

Mr. Shrimpton denied the group should be turned into a fans' cooperative. He said the group was committed to investing heavily, already had a chief executive in mind and was considering a possible stock flotation

if it emerges as the winner.

If the group is willing and able to pay up to £680 million, this would place it at the top end of the bidding scale, analysts said. Most had predicted a top price of £600 million.

Vickers said, "We have to get the best possible shareholder value but an element of it is to be finding the best possible home for Rolls."

Vickers bought Rolls-Royce in 1980, saving the group from bankruptcy and rebuilding it into a viable concern.

Earlier on Thursday, Rolls-Royce announced it had sold 1,918 cars in 1997, up from 1,744 in 1996.

## STEEL: IG Metall Wins a 2.6% Pay Increase in Eastern Germany

Continued from Page 11

consensus-based economic model. The union clearly is fighting the erosion of the wage cartel, an erosion that started in Eastern Germany and has since spread into Western Germany," said Thomas Mayer, an economist in Frankfurt for Goldman Sachs & Co.

With a victory in Eastern Germany, where more than half the metal-working industries are estimated to pay below IG Metall's scale, the union hopes to reassess control over wage policy, said various private economists and the Arbeitgeberverband Stahl steel employers' federation.

The growing trend toward company-by-company wage autonomy threatens the linchpin of union strength, economists said.

In a movement that has accelerated in recent weeks, Mr. Henkel opened a de-

bate that rapidly has devolved into an emotional campaign issue before national elections in September.

Showing solidarity with western unions, Gerhard Schroeder, a leading candidate in the opposition Social Democratic Party to challenge Chancellor Helmut Kohl, offered a ringing defense this month of the western-imposed consensus system of wages. "We can reimpose this consensus after the next election," he said.

The debate has brought Mr. Henkel into open conflict with members of Mr. Kohl's government. Norbert Blum, Mr. Kohl's labor minister and a life-long member of IG Metall, asserted that Mr. Henkel's tirades against the nation's wage system has worsened Germany's international reputation and driven away foreign investors.

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, Jan. 8

Prices in local currencies.

• Telkoms

High Low Close Prev.

Amsterdam AEX index 925.29

Previous: 920.07

Deutsche Bank

High 40.40 40.30 40.20

Low 39.80 39.70 39.60

Close 40.20

Prev: 40.20

Alcatel

High 53.20 53.30 53.20

Low 52.80 52.70 52.60

Close 53.20

Prev: 53.20

AEG

High 36.50 36.50 36.50

Low 36.30 36.30 36.30

Close 36.50

Prev: 36.50

BASF

High 72.50 72.60 72.50

Low 72.30 72.20 72.10

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Prev: 72.50

Bayer

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Bayer

High 59.50 59.50 59.50

**Thursday's 4 P.M. Close**  
The 2,600 most traded stocks of the day.  
Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere

The Associated Press

The Associated Press



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# Big Bust Time Korea Frontier Land of Dawn

### *Brooks Said to*

## Ma Resumes It Stars at 2 Plans

## REGINE; *Prudence*

4 | Printed from Page 11

## Car Imports Slump

**Continued on Page 16**

## Going Bust Takes Time In Korea

**Bankrupt Firms Get Up to 20 Years of Grace**

*Bloomberg News*

SEOUL — Hanbo Steel & General Construction Co. has been languishing in South Korea's bankruptcy court for a year now, and still none of its creditors have been paid.

Just as the company's collapse was a portent of the perils of years of reckless expansion, its bankruptcy experience shows how hard it will be for the country to recover.

This year, about 500 Seoul-based companies have followed Hanbo into receivership. Companies mired in legal proceedings cannot restructure to help pull Korea out of an economic crisis that will all but wipe out growth this year.

"The process has got to be hastened," said Richard Samuelson, head of research at SBC Warburg in Seoul. "The excess workers and excess costs have to be flushed."

For that to happen, big changes are needed, analysts said. For instance, Seoul courts, which oversee almost all the nation's insolvency cases, have just four bankruptcy judges, and current rules allow companies up to 20 years to work out their bankruptcies.

"It's easy for companies to abuse the current system," said Kim Young Ha, a manager at Korea First Bank. He leads the bank's team seeking repayment from another Hanbo Group affiliate.

Korea First itself may be shut down by the government — its non-performing loans amounted to 16.7



THEY JUST WON'T MOVE — A sales lot in Seoul filling up with used cars on Thursday as South Korea's economy remained in the doldrums, with unemployment reaching a four-year high.

percent of total loans at the end of September, the most of any Korean bank.

Hanbo's bankruptcy exposed a loan-for-bribery scandal that implicated presidential aides and forced President Kim Young Sam to apologize. A Korea First Bank official accused of accepting bribes in exchange for approving loans to the company committed suicide.

While the bribery scandal disrupted the bankruptcy process on grounds.

The government failed three times to auction Hanbo to rival steel producers. The supervising judge appointed an executive from state-run Pohang Iron & Steel Co. to take the management reins.

In August, Hanbo was told it had until Oct. 15 to assemble its list of

creditors and the amount they were owed. In September, creditors sought to begin talks to sell some Hanbo assets, which they said were worth about 4 trillion won.

The October deadline for a creditors' list passed without results, and the company's lawyers now say they will try to have it ready by next month.

To be sure, bankruptcies in any country are messy and contentious. In South Korea, though, the system's problems were magnified by the abrupt collapse of so many companies. More than 15,000 companies failed last year.

For instance, Hally Group, one of the country's biggest conglomerates, went bankrupt last month with debts totaling more than 20 times its equity.

Foreign investors, too, were stung in some of the big failures. Jirou Ltd., the country's biggest distiller, for instance, defaulted on a \$30 million convertible bond when it went bankrupt.

Under proposals the government is now considering, companies such as Hanbo may have been shut down months ago. As part of the \$60 billion bailout arrangement arranged by the International Monetary Fund last month, the government said it would write new bankruptcy laws.

Shutting down companies wholesale would be a sea change for Korea Inc. — and might trigger violent protests by Korea's labor unions.

Until recently, lifetime employment was the norm here, and current law bars companies from firing unless they are financially strapped.

"There is no liquidation experience in Korea for big companies," said Choi Jung Kim, a banking analyst at Ssangyong Securities & Investment Co. "Creditors could have liquidated but they never did."

"Everyone recognizes that actual restructuring is urgently needed," he added. "The change in the environment could make this be realized."

David Roche, chief strategist for Independent Strategy, a London investment advisory firm, put it more bluntly in a recent newspaper editorial:

"Capitalism without bankruptcy," he wrote, "is like Christianity without hell."

Because seven out of 10 companies invest in or develop property here, Sun Hung Kai Properties is a barometer for corporate Hong Kong. The company accounts for almost 6 percent of the benchmark Hang Seng Index, making it the largest developer by market value.

That Hong Kong's largest developer would be willing to sell the new homes at these prices suggests that the property market is headed for more trouble, analysts said.

Shares of property companies fell Thursday on concerns about the effect of rising interest rates on earnings. Wing Tai Holdings Ltd., a real estate developer, fell to an almost five-year low on fears that the company's earnings will be hurt by higher interest rates in view of its already large debt load.

"There is concern over interest rates and their exposure to Hong Kong," said Ng Yeow Tong, an analyst at G.K. Goh Research Pte., a local brokerage.

The company recently bought land from the government at higher-than-expected market prices, analysts say. The purchases include sites on Draycott Drive and Newton Road sites in central Singapore. The company will have to pay more than \$50 million Singapore dollars (about \$315 million) for the two sites, which could take its debt burden to between 60 percent to 80 percent of shareholders' equity.

Other property stocks also fell, including City Developments Ltd. and DBS Land Ltd.

## Home Prices Weaken in Hong Kong

*Bloomberg News*

HONG KONG — Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd., Hong Kong's largest property developer, sold new luxury homes this week for almost half what they fetched nine months ago.

The price — about \$1,000 per square foot — seemed unthinkable last year, when Hong Kong home prices, already three times those in New York, soared to record highs.

Now, prices are down an average 20 percent since October and still falling.

The discounts by Sun Hung Kai Properties show how hard the developer and Hong Kong's entire property market have been hit by the rising interest rates that accompanied Asia's financial turmoil.

"It just confirms the downward trend of the property market," said Stephanie Wang, an analyst at HSBC James Capel Asia Ltd.

Because seven out of 10 companies invest in or develop property here, Sun Hung Kai Properties is a barometer for corporate Hong Kong. The company accounts for almost 6 percent of the benchmark Hang Seng Index, making it the largest developer by market value.

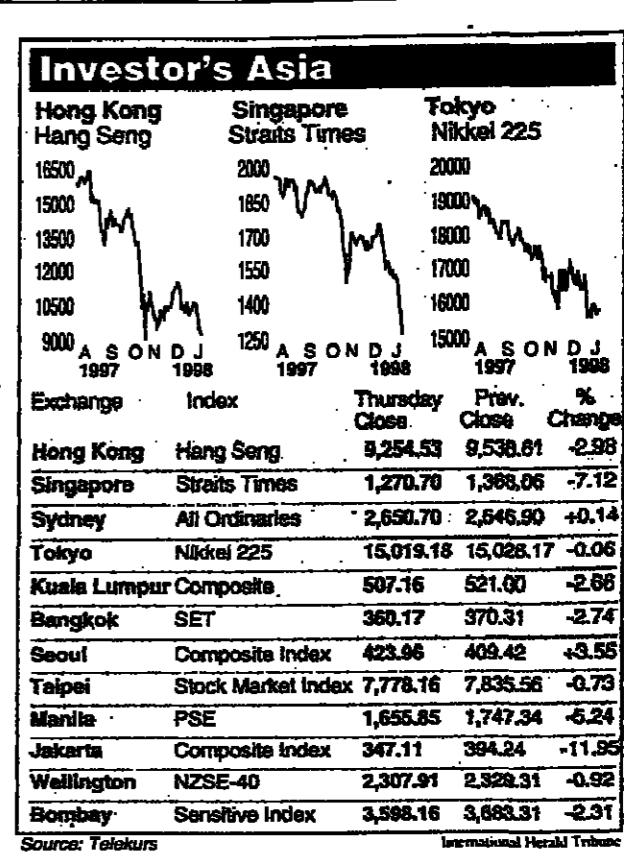
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Other property stocks also fell, including City Developments Ltd. and DBS Land Ltd.



Source: Telekurs

International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

• Nomura International PLC said it was willing to pay \$5.8 billion koruny (\$55.8 million) and 5.88 billion koruny for the Czech government's minority stake in Investicni a Postovni Banka AS, the CTK press agency reported.

• Yamaha Motor Co. said it would set up a wholly-owned subsidiary in Singapore as an operational center for the company's Asian business activities.

• Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.'s shares rose 6 cents to 3.08 Singapore dollars (\$1.76) as some investors sought a perceived safe haven with stable earnings amid an expected economic slowdown in Southeast Asian economies.

• NatSteel Broadway Ltd., the China-based manufacturer of electronic parts for consumer products, saw its Singapore-traded shares fall 15 cents, or 20 percent, to 57 cents, amid concern over its exposure to South Korea's Samsung Group, which announced production cuts throughout Asia.

• Clipal Industries Ltd. of Singapore said it had formed a subsidiary, Clipal Vietnam Company Ltd., to manufacture electrical-installation products.

• Atus Co., the Japanese developer of amusement equipment, said it would launch an advanced version of its popular photo-sticker machine in Japan and the United States.

• Hongkong Telecom said its wholly owned Hongkong Telecom CSL subsidiary had completed an acquisition of the mobile-phone operator Pacific Link Communications Ltd.

• Sharp Corp. denied a report that it had decided against producing only one product — active-matrix liquid crystal display screens of 12.1 inches (31 centimeters) and larger — at a new facility in Mie Prefecture in central Japan.

• The Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd. said it would raise its long-term prime rate 0.3 percentage point to 2.6 percent on Friday, from the current record low of 2.3 percent.

• Reserve Bank of India lifted a rule requiring Indian companies to seek its approval before they accepted foreign direct investment in some critical sectors such as infrastructure and other areas the government calls "priority sectors" for development.

Bloomberg, Reuters, AFP

## Motorola Said to Double China Investment

*Reuters*

BEIJING — Motorola Inc. plans to more than double its investment in China by the year 2000, the Xinhua news agency said on Thursday.

Motorola has put \$1.2 billion into a production center in Tianjin. It plans to build a second production center in Suzhou, in the coastal province of Jiangsu, the agency quoted P.Y. Lai, the Motorola China president, as saying. By 2000, Mo-

torola's investment in China would total \$2.5 billion, he said.

All investment would come directly from Motorola's profits in China, he said. Motorola will also invest \$280 million in Leshan, in Sichuan Province, to start an export-oriented semiconductor industry.

Motorola is confident of China's potential because of the lasting boom and the government's com-

mitment to a stable currency.

He cited China's stable political situation, high economic growth rate and foreign exchange reserves of \$140 billion as factors under-scoring China's sound financial order and smooth market.

Motorola will launch its North Asia business center in Beijing this year and enhance technological cooperation with China, Xinhua said, without giving further details.

## ASIA: Thailand Appeals for Help From G-7 as Crisis Deepens

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Tarrin said the Group of Seven nations should coordinate efforts to lift the strength of the yen, help persuade Asia's creditors not to call back their money and work to promote trade and investment in the region.

The Group of Seven's involvement need not include extra money to support the region's economies, Mr. Tarrin said. "It's a matter of showing leadership in terms of getting together to solve this problem systematically. Just that part alone is sufficient."

"At this point the officials are just out there shooting off a lot of blanks," a currency trader said. "They need to get someone in here with real bullets, like the World Bank, the United States or Japan."

As Indonesia led the downward plunge Thursday, amid political tensions over the future role of President Suharto, Mr. Tarrin warned that future instability could come from "various other countries as well." Hours after Mr. Tarrin spoke, Standard & Poor's Corp. downgraded Thailand's long-term debt to one notch above junk-bond status.

Stock markets throughout the region

tumbled Thursday, with Hong Kong's falling almost 3 percent, Singapore's 7.5 percent, Manila's 5.24 percent and Malaysia's 2.2 percent.

Hong Kong stocks fell for a sixth consecutive day amid growing fears that the colony was losing its status as a relatively safe place for investors in Asia's currency storm. Share prices have fallen 8.69 percent in two days. Weakening currencies across Asia also cast doubt over the Hong Kong dollar's peg to the U.S. dollar. Hong Kong's interest rates were pushed up for a second consecutive day to defend that link.

And in Taipei, Taiwan's central bank was again forced to intervene Thursday to prop up the local currency.

In trading in New York, the dollar was quoted at 9,400 rupee, up from 8,375 on Wednesday. The dollar was also quoted at 52.65 Thai baht, down from 53.15 baht; at 1,785 Singapore dollars, up from 1,741.50 dollars; at 4,705 Malaysian ringgit, up from 4,35 ringgit; at 34.33 Taiwan dollars, down from 34.41 dollars; and at 7,745 Hong Kong dollars, up from 7,365 dollars.

Asia's one bright spot was South Korea, the country that led the region's economic decline for the past few weeks. The won fell only moderately and recently introduced foreign ownership laws drove buyers to lift the stock index by 3.6 percent, making Seoul the best-performing stock market in Asia this year. The dollar rose to 1,785 won from 1,741 won.

For most of the region's currencies, trading volume has all but evaporated.

An average of about \$15 billion worth of each local currency was traded daily up to one year ago, while less the \$2 billion changes hands each day now, a trader said.

Speculators and investors have deserted the market, leaving only local companies desperate to pay back dollar debts and officials who attempt to slow the slide of their currencies.

With their credibility under attack and no currency reserves to back up their measures, the region's governments will not be able to restore confidence without outside help, traders and economists said.

"I don't think any one country here is in a position to change the force of market sentiment," said Eric Nickerson, managing director of currency research at Bank of America. "At best, all that the individual governments can do is change little things."

The danger, Mr. Nickerson said, was that officials might be driven to take desperate measures hindering the exchange of currency, which could hurt firms with legitimate need for dollars.

Thailand recently slashed the length of time exporters could hold foreign-currency earnings and plans to announce a set of measures to discourage speculation on Friday.

The Philippines' central bank governor, Gabriel Singiong, has vowed to take "drastic measures" to support the peso.

The Philippines has already accelerated the creation of an onshore trading market for forward currency contracts. With local banks now legally taking part in the hedging of currency risk, Mr. Singiong said he hoped the new facility would take the "panic out of the market."

## Malaysian Plan for Imports

As the ringgit fell against the dollar, Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Thursday that Malaysia planned to work out agreements with some countries to pay them for imports in currencies other than dollars, The Associated Press reported from Kuala Lumpur.

"Under new contracts we hope that imports from the ASEAN countries, China, Pakistan and India could be made using their respective currencies," Mr. Anwar said.

The Association of South East Asian Nations includes Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Brunei, Burma, Laos, Vietnam and Malaysia.

Mr. Anwar said imports denominated in U.S. dollars had become more expensive following the depreciation of the ringgit against the dollar.

"The problem is compounded by the fact that not only imports from the United States and Europe are denominated in U.S. dollars, but also those from other countries," he said.

## Car Imports Slump in Japan

*Continued from Page 11*

TOKYO — Hurt by an increase in the national consumption tax, sales of imported cars, trucks and buses in Japan plunged nearly 15 percent in 1997, the first decrease in five years, auto importers said Thursday.

Ford, Motor Co., Volvo AB and Renault were among the biggest losers.

The association forecast that sales of imported cars would not rise in 1998 from last year's levels, another indication that Japan's economic problems would continue to weigh on other countries.

Total imports in 1997 fell to 364,882 units, compared with 427,525 in 1996 — a drop of 14.7 percent, the Japan Automobile Importers Association said.

A spokesman for the association said imports were hurt by the increase in April 1997 of the national consumption tax to 5 percent from 3 percent and the elimination of a special income-tax reduction.

The import figures come as slow domestic consumption and increasing exports are fueling Japan's 1.06 trillion yen (\$7.91 billion) trade surplus.

(AP, Bloomberg)

Some 300 official and unofficial reports from Tokyo in recent weeks have led many investors to conclude that if anything, Mr. Sakakibara and his colleagues are intent on strengthening the old system rather than dismantling it in favor of more market-oriented institutions.

Koji Omi, head of Japan's Economic Planning Agency, said in a speech to the Council on Foreign Relations that the Japanese government would triple to 30 trillion yen (\$224 billion) the amount of public funds available to stabilize the nation's financial system.

But foreign investors have expressed concern that

**NASDAQ**

**Thursday's 4 P.M.**  
The 1,000 most traded National Market securities  
in terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.  
The Associated Press.

NYSE

**Thursday's 4 P.M. Close**  
**(Continued)**



## WORLD ROUNDUP

## Texas Rangers Sold

**BIGGEST DEAL** Tom Hicks agreed to buy the Texas Rangers from a group headed by Governor George Bush of Texas for \$250 million. Hicks also owns the Dallas Stars of the National Hockey League. If the deal is approved by owners, the price would be the second-highest for a baseball team. Fox Sports is awaiting approval on its purchase of the Los Angeles Dodgers, a deal worth about \$350 million. (AP)

## Court Jails Bomb Carrier

**OLYMPICS** A Stockholm court sentenced Mats Hinze on Thursday to seven years in prison for arson and attempted bombings that may have been protests against Stockholm's bid for the 2004 Olympics.

Hinze, 26, was arrested in September in Stockholm carrying a bomb toward a statue used as the symbol of the Olympic bid. The arrest came on the night before the International Olympic Committee voted to hold the games in Athens. Hinze said he had not planned to detonate the bomb but had wanted to embarrass the police as revenge for alleged harassment. (AP)

## Lattek Turns Down Iran

**SOCCER** Udo Lattek, former coach of Barcelona and Bayern Munich, turned down Thursday an offer to coach Iran in the World Cup finals. "It's not a decision against Iran but one for my family," Lattek said. (Reuters)

## Eagleson Is Jailed

**HOCKEY** Alan Eagleson, the former head of the NHL players' union, was jailed Wednesday after pleading guilty of fraud. On Tuesday, in Boston, Eagleson pleaded guilty to mail fraud and was fined \$700,000. The Hockey Hall of Fame will vote March 31 on expelling him. (AP)

## Linebacker on His Feet

**FOOTBALL** Reggie Brown, the Detroit linebacker, who was taken from the Silverdome in an ambulance Dec. 21, is back on his feet.

Brown, 23, is unlikely to play again. He will undergo rehabilitation in Houston, near his home.

Brown dislocated two neck vertebrae and bruised his spinal cord. He was unable to breathe and was resuscitated by a doctor. (AP)

## Chinese Swimmers Suspected of Doping

## Vials Labeled as Hormones Found With Team

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**PERTH**, Australia — Customs officers at Sydney Airport found vials thought to contain growth hormones in a Chinese swimmer's travel bag on Thursday.

Customs officials said the suspected hormones, banned by the governing authority of world swimming, FINA, were found during a search at Sydney Airport where 29 members of the Chinese national swimming team made a stop en route to the world championships in Perth.

A spokesman for the customs service in Sydney said that thirteen vials of liquid, packed in ice, were found in a bag belonging to a female team member. She was later identified as Yuan Yuan, a 1994 world silver medalist.

The spokesman said the vials had not been declared and were clearly labeled in English as "human somatotropin," a growth hormone that can be used as a substitute for muscle-building anabolic steroids.

"A team coach has said that he packed the bag," said John Hawksworth, regional director of the New South Wales branch of the Australian Customs Service.

The team members were released after some were questioned, and they later caught their scheduled flight for Perth. But the incident threw the world of competitive swimming into turmoil.

Seven members of the Chinese team tested positive for steroids before the 1994 Asian Games in Japan, two months after they won 12 out of 16 events at the world championships in Rome.

FINA officials in Perth have said they can take no action against the Chinese without actual proof of drug-taking.

Other members of the Chinese swimming team, training at a pool in suburban Perth when they received news of the incident, appeared incredulous. Returning to the team hotel nearby, they hid their faces from photographers and walked in without comment.

The Chinese team's leader, Shi Tianhui, declared that his athletes were "clean" when he arrived in Perth earlier this week. He also cautioned the Australian team's head coach, Don Talbot, to "get the facts" before pointing a finger at China following Talbot's publicly expressed doubts about the Chinese team's abstinence from performance enhancers.

Although the hormones are banned by FINA, there is no test to detect them.

The vials were found during a routine search of luggage after a customs officer

became suspicious of a person traveling with the team who matched the profile of a narcotics suspect.

Customs officials said it was unlikely that any team member would be prosecuted even if lab tests proved the substance to be growth hormones, because of the small amount found.

"This time they've been caught with their hands in the cookie jar," Talbot said, adding that he was glad. "It makes a lot of the people who have been defending them."

Derek Stelling, a British swimming official, said FINA should consider banning China from the world championships, which began in Perth on Wednesday and end on Jan. 18.

"It'll penalize a lot of innocent people, but it's the only way they'll get the message," Stelling said. "It seemed to us that they had learned their lesson after what happened in 1994, but obviously they haven't. I must admit I'm pretty shocked but it has reinforced the suspicions."

The veteran Australian swimming coach, Forbes Carlile, said FINA's lenient approach had contributed to the Chinese problem. He said FINA had wasted time attacking Winfried Leopold, head coach of the German team, for admitting past doping activity instead of targeting the Chinese.

Leopold regained his accreditation for the championships on Thursday after a judge in the Western Australian Supreme Court decided a case could be made that FINA had denied him justice when it withdrew his accreditation. FINA had withdrawn Leopold's accreditation after he said to reporters on arrival that he had been involved in doping as a coach in East Germany in the 1980s.

"They're so damn clumsy, trying to grandstand," Carlile said of FINA. "Instead of trying to repudiate an East German, they should have been going after the Chinese." (AP, Reuters)

## ■ Russian Wins a Gold in Diving

Meanwhile, in the pool on Thursday, Yuliya Pakhalina of Russia capped 15 years of training with a gold medal in the women's 3-meter springboard diving event. The Associated Press reported from Perth.

Pakhalina, 20, has been coached by her father since she was 5 years old. She finished her final set of dives with a score of 544.62 points, well clear of Jin Jing Guo of China, who had 518.76.

Chantelle Michell of Australia moved up from 10th place after the semifinals to take the bronze.



A Chinese swimmer, Yuan Yuan, being escorted by a customs officer, left, and a policeman at Perth's airport.

## More Q's Than A's as Golfers Tee Off

By Clifton Brown  
New York Times Service

**CARLSBAD**, California — When David Duval and Gabriel Hjeltnest stepped to the first tee Thursday at the Mercedes Championships, the short golf winter break ended and one of the most anticipated seasons in PGA Tour history began.

Will Tiger Woods remain the tour's dominant player? Can either Phil Mickelson or Colin Montgomerie finally win a major? Can John Daly return as a force in the game? Will the majors continue to be dominated by younger players? Or can over-40 veterans like Greg Norman, Nick Faldo and Nick Price still play their best when it matters most?

The answers will unfold throughout the year, but this week, the competition and the pressure begin. The tour has never been deeper, the prize money has never been bigger, and winning consistently has never been harder.

Ask Ernie Els, the defending U.S. Open champion and one of the world's top players. He admits he enjoys lifting a beer more than lifting weights. But this off-season, Els made the decision to start working out regularly. He is looking for any edge he can get.

"To accomplish what I want to accomplish, I felt it was something I need to do," Els said.

Some of golf's most recognizable

names are hoping to bounce back from subpar seasons: Fred Couples, Corey Pavin, Payne Stewart, Craig Stadler, Tom Lehman and Daly are all still in their 20s, and Love is only 33.

"I'd love to win the money title, the scoring title, and all four majors at least once," Love said. "I'm striving for consistency. That keeps you motivated."

## ■ Last Round in Florida

An 85-year-old former professional golfer shot the manager of a public golf course twice in the chest Wednesday, then killed himself in the pro shop. The Associated Press reported from Mount Dora, Florida.

Emile Tardiff was angry at being represented by the management for driving his golf cart on the greens and disrupting others' games by moving to tees before they were done, police said.

The board of directors of the Mount Dora Golf Association had written Tardiff several letters and threatened to suspend him from the course.

Police said Tardiff walked into the pro shop Wednesday with one of the letters in his pocket and shot Douglas Passen, 58, who staggered out and collapsed near a group of men teeing off.

Tardiff walked back into the shop to call police, then turned the gun on himself. Passen was listed in stable condition after surgery in an Orlando hospital.

## THE INTERMARKET

## GENERAL

## Announcements

## Personals

## Employment

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## SPORTS

## Heat Scald Bulls In 99-72 Victory

The Associated Press

The Miami Heat sent the Chicago Bulls to their most lopsided loss in nearly two years, but the Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson, was not around to see most of it.

Jackson was ejected in the

## NBA ROUNDUP

first half for protesting a technical foul on Dennis Rodman, as the Bulls lost, 99-72, Wednesday in Miami.

"We've got the rings. They ain't got no rings," Rodman said. "They beat us. It's one of 82. It's not a big deal."

Spurs 96, Nuggets 89. Denver set a team record with its 15th straight loss. The Nuggets dropped to 0-18 on the road.

Wizards 110, Celtics 108. Antoine Walker scored 49 points, the most by a Boston player since Larry Bird hit 49 on March 15, 1992. But, the Celtics lost in Washington.

The Wizards led, 110-107, with 10 seconds left when Juwan Howard called a time-out, but Washington had none left. The referee called the technical foul, and Dana Barros made the shot for Boston, then missed a 3-pointer as time expired.

Five years ago in the NCAA championship game, Chris Webber, now a Wizard, and Howard played for Michigan. In that game, Howard called a time-out, but Michigan had none left. This time, Webber gave Howard a big grin.

Clippers 110, Grizzlies 102. The Clippers won their fourth

straight home game to give coach Bill Fitch his 936th victory, making him third on the National Basketball Association's coaching list.

Lakers 114, Bucks 102. Shaquille O'Neal, playing his fourth game since being sidelined for more than six weeks because of an injury, scored a season-high 38 points as Los Angeles won at home.

Knicks 88, Nets 83. Sam Cassell scored a career-high 34 points, but missed a shot and was injured on a controversial final play in overtime, as New York held off New Jersey in Madison Square Garden. Cassell appeared to be fouled by Allan Houston as he took a shot in the last second. Houston jumped up and landed on Cassell's shoulder, but there was no call.

Suns 92, Timberwolves 77. Steve Nash had nine points and two key assists in the fourth quarter, as Phoenix won in Minnesota.

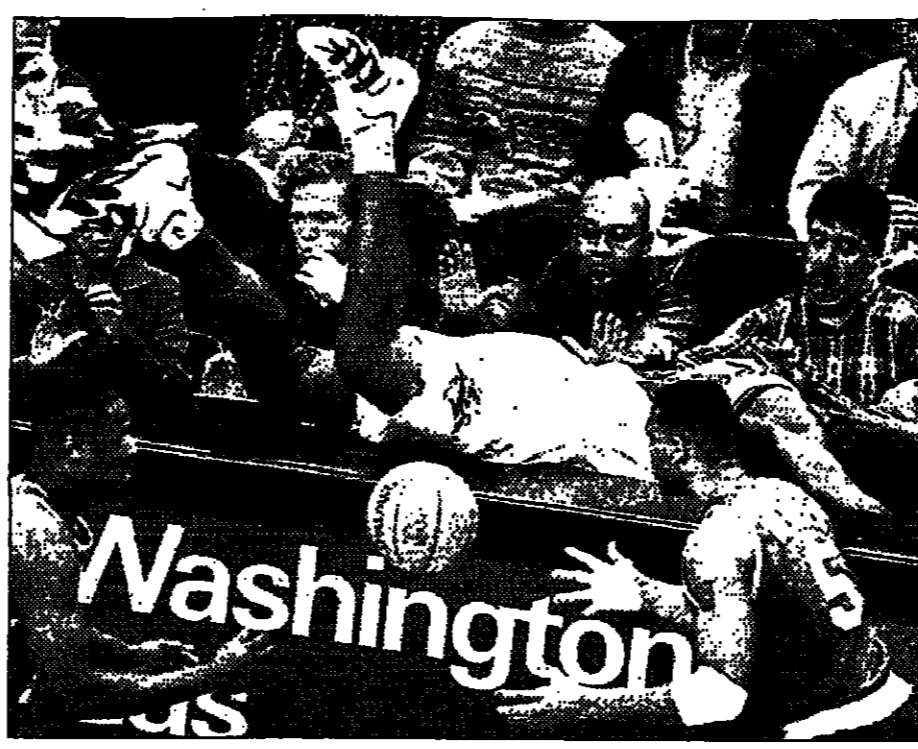
Magic 83, Raptors 81. Vernon Maxwell scored 18 points as Orlando stopped a four-game losing streak. Maxwell, signed to a 10-day contract Monday, played for 21 minutes in his first extensive NBA action since last April.

Hornets 91, Trail Blazers 88.

David Wesley swatted away Kenny Anderson's shot, then banked in a jumper with 2.2 seconds left to lift Charlotte to victory at Portland.

Bruins 106, Warriors 86.

Steve Smith scored 35 points and Dikembe Mutombo added 19 as Atlanta ended a seven-game losing streak.



Wizards' Terry Davis diving over the scorers' table trying to keep the ball inbounds.

## Senators Shut Out the Stars, 2-0

The Associated Press

Damian Rhodes stopped 34 shots as the Ottawa Senators shut out the Stars in Dallas.

The Senators won, 2-0, on Wednesday night, despite being outshot 34-17.

Dallas, the top team in the National Hockey League, had been unbeaten in its last 10 games.

Chris Murray and Magnus Arvedson scored for the Senators.

Bruins 2, Canadiens 1. Steve Heinen scored just under two minutes left in overtime, giving Boston a victory at Montreal.

Maple Leafs 5, Lightning 2. In Tampa, Felix Potvin's strong goaltending and three straight second-period goals lifted Toronto to victory.

Potvin stopped 34 shots, including 17 during the second period when he made a

five-game losing streak at home. Former Oiler Ray Whitney scored both Florida goals.

Blues 3, Canucks 2. In Vancouver, Chris Brecker broke a tie with 7:38 left in the third as St. Louis won its third straight.

Sabres 3, Mighty Ducks 2.

Curtis Brown and Alexei Zhitnik scored goals in a 41-second span of the third period as Buffalo rallied to win in Anaheim.

Penguins 3, Panthers 1. Martin Brodeur gained his 11th leading 25th victory as New Jersey beat Pittsburgh, one of the league's top road teams.

Devils 3, Panthers 2. Second Period: N.J. 2-18. Third Period: B-12.

The Steelers are only the seventh team since the 1970 merger of the two leagues to lead the conference in rushing offense and rushing defense. The Steelers' defense and Bettis won the last battle of the running backs on Dec. 7, when they faced the Broncos. Bettis churned out 125 yards, while Davis was held to one of his lower totals of the season, 75 yards. Pitt

## It's the Battle of the Backs Broncos vs. Steelers Will Be Won on Ground

By Gerald Eskenazi

New York Times Service

Jerome Bettis, the Pittsburgh Steelers' usually cheerful running back, is annoyed by the Denver Broncos' Terrell Davis, his chief rival for the title of the American Football Conference's No. 1 running back.

The two men will clash Sunday in Pittsburgh for the conference championship, with the winning team facing the 49ers or the Packers in the Super Bowl.

Bettis has all the respect in the world for Davis, whose running style is that of a jitterbug, while Bettis's approach is personified by his nickname, the Bus, bestowed on him by Notre Dame students during his college career.

Bettis looked at a newspaper photo posted in the locker room and was not amused. The picture showed a stack of shirts emblazoned with Davis, who has the Super Bowl XXXII logo behind him. Davis is saying, "Salute this!" The salute is Davis's way of acknowledging the Denver fans when he scores.

"When they have T-shirts they're already making, that's a blatant lack of respect," Bettis said. "So when you see that type of thing and say, O.K., we'll see if you guys get a chance to wear those shirts or you have to burn them."

Bettis also doesn't like the salute, saying, "It works for them, but it kind of backfires every time they lose a game because people find a way to throw it back in their faces."

There is one thing that the running backs agree on.

"I think primarily it will be a running game," Davis said.

"I think we have to run the football," Bettis said. "That's first and foremost. If we can't run the football, we won't do it. We've had to run the football for the last 17 weeks."

The Steelers are only the seventh team since the 1970 merger of the two leagues to lead the conference in rushing offense and rushing defense. The Steelers' defense and Bettis won

the last battle of the running backs on Dec. 7, when they faced the Broncos. Bettis churned out 125 yards, while Davis was held to one of his lower totals of the season, 75 yards. Pitt

burgh won. Overall, though, Davis led the conference with his 1,750 yards, second in the National Football League to the Detroit Lions' Barry Sanders. Bettis was third at 1,665.

Bettis remains one of the great Steelers steals. He was the Rams' first-round draft pick in 1993, but soon clashed with management.

After his third season with the Rams, he saw Lou Holtz, his former coach at Notre Dame. "Some impostor was wearing your uniform last year," Holtz said. Bettis had been slowed by an ankle injury and failed to gain 1,000 yards for the first time. Then on draft day in 1996, the Rams picked Lawrence Phillips. The Steelers wheeled a deal out of the Rams, giving second- and fourth-round choices in exchange for Bettis and a third-round pick. In his first season with the Steelers, Bettis amassed 1,431 yards. Now, for a second straight season, the Steelers have voted him the team's most valuable player.

At 5 feet 11 inches and 250 pounds, he seems to be the perfect complement to Kordell Stewart, whose ability to run and throw is rarely seen in NFL quarterbacks.

When Stewart was elevated to the starter's role, Bettis made sure that they got to know each other. They roomed together the week the team was in Ireland for an exhibition game. Bettis told the young quarterback he thought they could make it to the Super Bowl.

"Having Kordell as quarterback has added a new dimension," Bettis said. "They have to stop him as a runner and as a passer."

Bettis talks about consistency as his hallmark. He even sees a connection with his other favorite sport, bowling. He has a 200 average. "The pacing and self-discipline — you have to be consistent in throwing the ball the same way," he said. "To be a great running back, you have to be consistent week in and week out. You can't just run 40 yards one week and then have a big week the next."

One other thing in his life remains consistent — the devotion of his family. His mother, father, sister and brother will be at Sunday's game. They have attended almost every one of his games since high school.

## SCOREBOARD

## BASKETBALL

## NBA STANDINGS

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## ATLANTIC DIVISION

## W L Pct GB

## Midwest 22 11 .676 12

## Indiana 21 11 .656 13

## Boston 20 12 .645 14

## Orlando 18 16 .550 15

## Washington 19 17 .558 16

## Philadelphia 14 22 .481 17

## Philadelphia 9 23 .281 18

## CENTRAL DIVISION

## W L Pct GB

## Chicago 22 11 .676 19

## Indiana 21 11 .656 20

## Milwaukee 20 12 .645 21

## Cleveland 19 13 .625 22

## Detroit 17 15 .550 23

## Milwaukee 15 18 .455 24

## Milwaukee 15 18 .455 25

## Milwaukee 15 18 .455 26

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## W L Pct GB

## Sonoma 22 11 .676 27

## Utah 21 11 .656 28

## Phoenix 20 12 .645 29

## Portland 18 14 .550 30

## Vancouver 19 15 .526 31

## Golden State 20 16 .500 32

## Seattle 22 17 .583 33

## Wednesday's results

## W L Pct GB

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## POSTCARD

## Boom in Creepy Type

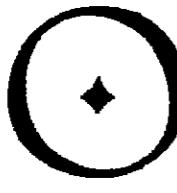
By Phil Patton  
New York Times Service

**NEW YORK** — Medieval and spiky, and with the quality of twisted ironwork and ruined priorities, a strange family of typefaces has moved from the graphic avant-garde to mainstream advertising and packaging.

Inspired by Jonathan Barnbrook's 1992 typeface called "Manson," lettering that at once evokes a poster for "The Omen" and the Irish Book of Kells figures in ads for the sporty new Lexus GS sedan. The telltale letters in these typefaces are the O's — either surrounding a small diamond, or superimposed with a cross that looks like the hairs of a gun sight — and T's that look like crosses to deter vampires.

The Manson fonts are not just for car ads. Similar type decorates the "Standing Stone" CD. Paul McCartney's 1997 venture into orchestral music, suggesting something primal, runic and far more important than pop — part Druid and part Grecian. It also shows up in a mix of high tech and Tolkien in computer games like "Myst" and "Riven." On paperback book covers and videotape packages, the crossed-over O's, the bodkin T's and the scythe-edge C's subliminally signal stories in the tradition of "The Exorcist" or "The Relic."

On screen, similar letters show up in credits and titles, conflating time periods into one common distant and dangerous era. The titles for the movie "Braveheart" placed Mel Gibson's Scottish insurgents in the same neighborhood as the mythological era



of Xena the warrior princess. Before desktop publishing and bit-mapped fonts, most people had no more idea of the names of familiar typefaces than of Amazon monkeys. Now, references to Helvetica or Univers sprinkle cocktail parties. And the names inevitably affect the impressions of the letters themselves.

The name Manson sparked a debate in the magazine *Emigre*, the most influential journal among the younger '90s font designers. The choice of name was a provocative, possibly self-promoting act. In their new book, *Literacy: Under Graphic Design* (Allworth), Steven Heller and Karen Pomeroy write that the whiff of Charles Manson makes the letters "kissing cousins of the swastika tattoo carved into Manson's forehead or the words 'helter skelter' that were drawn in blood on the walls of Sharon Tate's home."

Barnbrook defended the name, citing subliminal associations with "mason" and "mansion," that related to the carved-in-stone quality of the face. Responding to criticisms, the *Emigre* fonts catalogue replaced the name with that of Mason.

That such associative baggage as Manson and its kin should be smuggled into mainstream corporate design is only the latest stage in Madison Avenue's dabbling in semi-underground, slightly subversive "garage fonts."

When Fortune 500 companies grab onto twisted and blurry typefaces, they try to show how tip they are as they market to Generation X. They also risk seeming like stockbrokers in the mosh pit.

By David Streitfeld  
Washington Post Service

**PRINCETON**, New Jersey — So, Toni Morrison. You're the first writer in English since Hemingway to win the Nobel Prize and yet be firmly anchored in mass culture — to have your work stacked up in warehouse discount clubs and New Jersey Turnpike rest stops.

At 66, you're at the peak of your powers. Your best-known novel, "Beloved," will be released as a big-budget movie next fall, undoubtedly sparking a re-examination of slavery that will make the noise over "Annie" seem muted.

In an era when many good novelists feel neglected, you receive more requests to lecture, to read, to be interviewed, to participate on panels and attend conferences, to receive honorary degrees and serve on government commissions, than could be dealt with by a whole shelf of writers.

No other contemporary writer has your formidable presence, your moral authority.

But you're happy?

Morrison laughs a bit and sighs at the same time. "That's really irrelevant," she says, picking at a croissant in her office at the university here. "What is all this running around after happiness? It's very American, and very boring. Why don't we just do something constructive, something creative, and then if that makes us happy, fine. If it doesn't, at least we still have tilled the garden, baked the bread, took care of somebody who couldn't take care of themselves, written the book..."

Written the book, yes. Morrison's seventh novel, her first since the Nobel, goes on sale in the United States this week. This is the novel as cultural event: *Newsweek* running out its review so it can bear Time, which is talking cover for next week. "60 Minutes" is doing a segment; other television shows are lining up. The publisher expects to sell hundreds of thousands of copies in the next couple of weeks

— terrific for any novel, close to unprecedented for such an uncompromising literary work.

The critics will decide if "Paradise" is Morrison's best book, but it's a safe bet that none will call it her simplest. The tale reaches back a century and roams over the country but mostly takes place in a small Oklahoma town in 1976. It would be tempting to say this is a major novelist's take on what is frequently billed as the major issue confronting America today, the one we discuss all the time yet never talk about. Except for one thing: The whole point of the novel is to ignore race.

"They shoot the white girl first." That's the blunt first sentence of "Paradise," but a chasm separates these six words from the rest of the novel, which never mentions race so directly again.

"They" are the men from the isolated hamlet of Ruby, convinced that a handful of free-spirited women living in a former convent are the source of all their troubles. The proud history of Ruby is given, as is the background of each of the women — a mother who accidentally let her children suffocate in a car; a confused teenager. At the very end, the story circles back to the rampaging men. Only a very clever reader will be able to figure out which one of the women is the white girl. The others are black.

Morrison explains what she is up to: "The tradition of writing is that if you don't mention a character's race, he's white. Any deviation from that, you have to say. What I wanted to do was not erase race, but force readers either to care about it or see if it disturbs them that they don't know. Does it interfere with the story? Does it make you uncomfortable? Or do I succeed in making the characters so clear, that you realize (a) it doesn't matter, and (b), more important, that when you know their race, it's the least amount of information to know about a person."

It's possible to read "Paradise" as exploring several sharp conflicts: the religious town vs. the "pagan" convent, those who worship money vs. those who don't, the Ruby men vs. the convent women. Morrison acknowledges that friends have already accused her of "having demonized some lovely people."

Meaning the men of Ruby?

"They didn't say that in front of my face. But they said, 'This is a strongly feminist book, isn't it? Meaning: 'You're championing the women versus the men.'"

She insists: "I don't have an agenda. All I have are questions. Everything is very complicated. Yes, it could be that I could be understood to be saying that patriarchy is bad and matriarchy is good. In fact, I don't believe either of those things. I don't deal in these binaries."



Mimi Yasukawa/The Washington Post

Novel as cultural event: Morrison's seventh comes out this week.

Which leads to her biggest worry about the book's reception.

Ruby is an all-black community, a town that has purposefully and successfully isolated itself from the world. It's the perceived threat to this security, the attempt to make sure that "nothing inside or out rots the one all-black town worth the pain," that leads the men to attack the women. "I'm fearful they'll talk about it as a book about racist black people," says Morrison. "You can't tell the story of the American racial tragedy from just one side of the color lines, he felt."

Writers passionately hate to be stuck in categories. It would be unseemly, therefore, to tag Morrison, the epitome of commercial and critical success, a "black novelist." Meaning: "You're championing the women versus the men."

She chuckles.

Writers passionately hate to be stuck in categories. It would be unseemly, therefore, to tag Morrison, the epitome of commercial and critical success, a "black novelist."

Except she's always wanted it

that way. When she was called a great American novelist, she would think, Ha, they're trying to say I'm not black. For her, the way into the larger tradition of literature was and is through the African American door, and she wants to make that clear.

This desire is tied up with the Bill Moyers Question, which he asked in a televised interview in 1989: "Is it conceivable you could write a novel in which blacks are not at center stage?"

"Absolutely," Morrison responded. But she knew what the question really meant: Are you ever going to write a book about white people? It was, in a sense, a compliment. You write well enough, I would even let you write about me.

It's not so much that she writes about blacks. It's that her books have few whites in them. Their primary concern is not men, either. The archetypal Morrison moment occurs in her second novel, "Sula" (1974), when the title character and her friend, Nel, discover they are "neither white nor male, and that all freedom and triumph were forbidden to them, they had set about creating something else to be."

The white male center of the culture gave ground only grudgingly. No one ever told Solzhenitsyn: "So, enough with these gloomy Russians already. When are you going to write a novel set in Vermont?" But Morrison has faced criticism like that for much of her career.

In the New York Times Book Review in 1977, Reynolds Price wrote that one of the few problems with Morrison's breakthrough epic "Song of Solomon" was "the understandable but weakening omission of active white characters."

You can't tell the story of the American racial tragedy from just one side of the color lines, he felt. But 20 years later, Price says he has changed his mind: "I don't feel that need anymore. Her own imaginative world has proven itself to be a rich and entirely inclusive view of the human race."

## CARS

## Havana and the Vintage Chariots of Chrome

By Joseph Giovanniini  
New York Times Service

**HAVANA** — In the exotic-car sweepstakes, even the bulletproof, see-through popemobile will have competition when the pontiff visits Cuba on Jan. 21. No country, not even a state of mind like Los Angeles, has a more nostalgic collection of post-World War II American cars than Cuba, to judge by the two- and three-tone specimens that time and history have left behind and running on the dilapidated streets of Havana.

Detroit's days of glory coincided with Havana's nights of glamour, when men smoked status cigars and sported cars with major-league fins. Those muscular American cars now strut their white tails against the peeling backdrop of the once rich and handsome capital. These trophy autos are stranded in a threadbare city, the talismans of one culture thriving conspicuously in another.

The men who own these private cars (and in Cuba, they are almost exclusively a man's thing) do their on chromed prizes; yet, Havana itself is architecturally exhausted, the signs of deep, sustained economic crisis and an ambivalence about property written on nearly every facade. The cars are preserved; the buildings are crumbling.

With a Latin flare for architecture, 20th-century Havana fostered bold strokes of modernism in the heart of the city, and in the new suburbs spawned by the car. Architects shared with Detroit an optimism about progress through design, and with carports and double garages they made conspicuous room in their futuristic structures for aerodynamically suave automobiles. Detroit's cars had worthy buildings to cruise up to; car and house returned each other's compliment.

If the city is still largely intact, rather than bulldozed by developers, it is because Fidel Castro has simply pursued a



Havana is a time capsule of the auto industry.

dilettante from the 1950s when that pert and classy upright fin came attached, like a dollar sign, to a long series of subtly refined designs that conquered the known world. A Cadillac was a Cadillac was a Cadillac, but some sophisticates preferred the period's great boats, the Lincoln Continental four-door.

Beyond the obvious trophies that Lucy and Desi might have driven on the arched Malecon (the ocean-side promenade, which today is nearly shopless), there are recherche specimens, like the Hudson Hornets of the mid-'50s, or the even rarer Kaiser, with widow's peaks over the windshields, and hood and fenders stretched tight like an overenthusiastic face-lift.

Occasionally, one of the low-slung, snarky Raymond Loewy Studebakers — too much ahead of its time to be successful — rounds a corner, and once in a long vacation, the Avanti, Loewy's last Studebaker, makes a cameo appearance. As if to drive gringos mad, "woodies" (wood-paneled station wagons) are occasionally seen plying the northern coastal roads.

For Americans, the cars may seem like collectibles, but for Cubans they are transportation. Many gas-guzzling geezers earn their keep as taxis, wedding-day chariots and tourist toys. Their owners keep them going by cannibalizing other cars, including Russian jeeps. Hemingway's "50s and '60s cars have long since vanished, but there is little doubt that their body parts have been recycled into *cacharras* (a term of endearment, loosely translated as "jalopies").

The tender loving paint jobs make it clear that sometimes a car is not just a car. The Yves Klein blue on a '55 Mercury is a color of love. Occasionally, the car is painted to match the house, out of the same bucket of paint. Look closely, and you often see brush strokes.

Robert Carlyle, star of the hit film "The Full Monty," says he's getting so fed up with exposure in the press that he's considering leaving his native Scotland. Carlyle says the press seizes upon his every uttering, often distorting it, and he also complains of intrusion into his private life, such as his wedding last month. "I love Scotland, I love Glasgow," he said. "But the constant sniping makes it very difficult. If it becomes impossible for me to live something like a normal life in Scotland, I could leave."

Elton John, Marianne Faithfull and the Pet Shop Boys will headline a star-studded gala concert next week celebrating the centennial of the birth of the writer, actor, composer and dramatist Noel Coward. They're a little early — Coward was born in December 1899 — but lots of names have already signed up for the Jan. 15 date. Profits will go to an AIDS organization, and the stars' combined efforts will go into an album.

Auguste Rodin's sculpture "The

**THE** directors Neil Jordan, Oliver Stone and Bertrand Tavernier and the actors Dennis Hopper and Morgan Freeman will be among the stars making appearances at the 25th Brussels International Film Festival this month. They will be presented with special trophies, awarded to people who have made a lasting contribution to the film industry. There will be a special tribute to Hopper, who has been making and appearing in films since 1955, with screenings of 11 of his classics.

**Kiss** is returning to a town in southern England nearly a century after it was rejected there as too erotic. The marble statue of a naked man and woman entwined in a passionate kiss, one of four similar works by Rodin, had been given to the people of Lewes in 1914. But it was quickly returned to its owners, amid fears that it would inflame the passions of the town's youth. It was later sold to London's Tate Gallery in London. The Tate is lending the work to Lewes for a six-month exhibition.

**Oprah** Winfrey's show will go on from Texas this month while she is defending herself in a federal defamation lawsuit brought by a cattleman's group. She will tape episodes of the syndicated "Oprah" show in Amarillo, Texas, beginning Jan. 26, her production company said, days after the trial's scheduled start. The cattleman claims that they lost millions of dollars after a show that aired April 16, 1996, during which Winfrey discussed the possibility of "mad cow" disease breaking out in the United States.

About 500 sailing craft will gather in the South Atlantic resort of Punta Del

Este, Uruguay, on Sunday for a ceremony in honor of the French undersea explorer Jacques Cousteau. The ceremony is timed to coincide with the second anniversary of the sinking of Cousteau's ship *Calypsos*. "I've deeply admired Cousteau, who has arrived first at every port in the world where I've docked," Carlos Paez Vilaro, the organizer, said at a news conference. Cousteau died in June at the age of 87.

All the attention Jerry Seinfeld has received since disclosing that he will end production of his hit NBC sitcom has made him a kind of superhero in the media. So it may be appropriate that American Express Co. will soon introduce a television commercial in which Seinfeld is paired with Superman. The commercial by Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide in New York, part of the WPP Group, combines live action with animation. It is being described as the first time that the animated Superman character will appear with a celebrity for advertising purposes. Rights to Superman are owned by DC Comics, a unit of Time Warner Inc.; "Seinfeld" is produced by Castle Rock Entertainment, also part of Time Warner.



The \$100,000 Trump apartment still needs a bit of touch-up.

## The \$100,000-a-Month Pad

By Tracie Rozhon  
New York Times Service

**NEW YORK** — Welcome to this week's newest rental offering. Still undergoing last-minute touch-ups, it is priced at \$100,000 a month. If rented, Donald Trump's personal penthouse, at the top of Trump International Hotel & Tower at Columbus Circle — once slated to be the new home of Donald, Marla and Tiffany, now a casualty of separation — would be the highest-priced apartment rental in New York City. Ever, brokers say.

Yet, the Trump penthouse is by no means the city's only stratospherically priced rental. In the last year, there have been at least 60 rentals priced at more than \$25,000 a month, according to Corcoran Group. In 1996, there were only 21.

In these days of Wall Street bonuses and co-op board rejections, renting is an increasingly popular choice. Just a year ago, agents were saying these types of rentals were almost nonexistent; now, agents complain, their only problem is finding enough of them for temporarily homeless millionaires. To meet the demand, developers are adding mega-penthouses to almost every new rental building.

Beatrice Ducrot of Stribling Associates said one of her listings, a \$27,000-a-month prewar co-op rental on Central Park West with nine rooms and a handful of terraces, had "people lined up, three or four deep, but it rented in a day. These tycoons do not just wait around."

While these rental prices seem breathtaking, \$25,000 to \$50,000 a month for luxury three-bedroom rentals in Hong Kong is not unusual. In Palm Beach, Florida, a 1920s beach house is now being rented for \$100,000 a month, but just for the season. In Beverly Hills, California, and London, the ceiling is \$35,000 a month, agents in these cities say.

## 2 Paintings, Perhaps Stolen by Nazis, Are Held in New York

By Judith H. Dobrzynski  
New York Times Service

**NEW YORK** — District Attorney Robert Morgenthau has taken steps to prevent the Museum of Modern Art from returning to Austria two paintings from a recent show whose provenance is clouded by Nazi wartime plundering. He said he would begin a criminal investigation into the ownership of the artworks.

Morgenthau's move to halt the transfer of two paintings by Egon Schiele jolted many art professionals, who feared it would upset loan agreements among museums around the world.

Earlier in the day, Vienna's Leopold Museum, which possesses the paintings, had proposed the creation of an international fact-finding tribunal to examine the claims of two families who say they are the rightful owner. The Leopold

Museum said it would be bound by the tribunal's findings. But the Austrian museum's olive branch did not satisfy the families, who insisted that the paintings be left in the United States as insurance that the panel's process would be fair.

Morgenthau, who was asked to investigate the ownership by one of the families, said, "We've opened an investigation and are taking steps to keep the two paintings in Manhattan." He declined to comment further, but the issuance of a subpoena indicates that his office will take the matter before a grand jury where the paintings will be used as evidence. The subpoena could bar the return of the paintings to Austria, at least for the length of the investigation, which could take months if not well over a year.

"There is no comparable instance in history," said Leopold Museum managing director Klaus A. Schroeder of

Henry S. Bondi, representing the other family, which claims "